UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

SPRING 2006 • VOL. 30 • NO. 2

# TODAY

INSIDE

CYCLING INTO A CAREER

GRADUATE CAMPUS IS WORLD CLASS

## WORKS IN ART

*Alumni pursue full-time creative endeavors*

William J. Frawley, dean of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences at George Washington University, will become the seventh president of the University of Mary Washington.

**Mona Davis Albertine '71**, rector of the UMW Board of Visitors and head of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, made the announcement in February.

"I am delighted to announce this selection," Albertine said. "Dr. Frawley brings the proper mix of academic achievement, managerial expertise and strong leadership skills to take the University of Mary Washington to new heights of excellence in the 21st century. Dr. Frawley rose to the top in competition with more than 100 highly qualified applicants, including three extraordinarily talented finalists."

Frawley's appointment was finalized by the University's Board of Visitors during its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 17. On July 1, 2006, Frawley will succeed William M. Anderson Jr., who has been president since 1983.

"It is a great honor to be entrusted with the leadership of this fine institution," Frawley said. "I am very fortunate to become part of its century of tradition and especially to be able to work with UMW's accomplished faculty, students and staff, the engaged and helpful community of Fredericksburg and the region, and UMW's thoughtful and dedicated Board of Visitors. Together we will move forward into Mary Washington's next century of excellence."

## New President is Named

*William J. Frawley greeted members of the community at a reception to welcome him as the next president of the University.*

The search for a new president at the University of Mary Washington began in February 2005 when Anderson informed the Board of Visitors that he planned to retire in June 2006. Albertine appointed a Presidential Search Advisory Committee to work with the consulting firm of Korn/Ferry International of Washington, D.C. After an exhaustive process, three finalists were brought to campus in January.

Frawley, 52, holds a doctorate from Northwestern University and a master's degree from Louisiana State University; both are in linguistics. He graduated *magna cum laude* with a degree in English from Glassboro State College, now Rowan University.

Frawley has extensive experience both as a university administrator and faculty member. In his current position, he is responsible for more than 40 academic departments at George Washington, including the School of Public Policy Administration, the School of Political Management, and the School of Media and Public Affairs. His annual operating budget of $65 million supports 400 full-time faculty, 300 part-time faculty and 100 staff, in addition to academic programs for 6,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students on three campuses.

His administrative experience includes success in the area of institutional fund raising. In three and a half years, he helped raise more than $45 million for GWU's College of Arts and Sciences, with individual donor gifts as high as $5 million. External funding from grants increased 28 percent during his tenure as dean, including a $5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the Graduate School of Education and a $2 million grant from the National Science Foundation for GWU's chemistry program. Frawley also has developed collaborative partnerships with corporations and with state and federal agencies. All of these collaborations have generated new revenue streams for the institution.

Before joining George Washington in 2002, Frawley served for 23 years as a professor and administrator at the University of Delaware. He has taught English, linguistics and anthropology. He speaks Spanish, French and Polish, and he can read Russian and German. Frawley has lectured throughout the world, and he has held appointments at academic institutes in Hungary, Poland and Morocco.

Frawley has written several books and numerous scholarly articles in his field. He has served on the editorial boards of many academic journals, including his current role as editor of *Dictionaries* and as a member of the advisory board of Oxford University's U.S. dictionary projects.

On Feb. 6, just three days after announcing Frawley as the next president, Albertine officially welcomed him to the University at a celebration in Great Hall. Frawley greeted the crowd of more than 300 faculty, staff, students and community members gathered in his honor. He introduced wife Maria Frawley, associate professor of English at George Washington University; son Christopher, 14; and daughter Emma, 11.

He was happy, he said, to take on the difficult and exciting task of advancing Mary Washington, a place he described as having a long tradition of excellent core liberal arts and sciences, and whose administration exhibited foresight by embracing graduate and professional studies.

"It is time to do new things, but we cannot do new things without standing on the past," Frawley said at his welcoming reception. "There is one person we need to thank, and that is President Anderson. We owe him a great deal of gratitude for all he has accomplished."

Frawley then strode across the hall to Anderson. With warm words, broad smiles and a firm handshake, Anderson and Frawley wished each other well as the crowd greeted the gesture with hearty applause.

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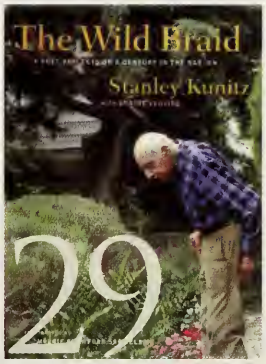

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Design: Sue Kaukas Design, Ashland, Va.

*University of Mary Washington TODAY* is published for the alumni, friends, faculty and staff of the University of Mary Washington three times a year, with issues in winter, spring and summer. Mail letters and address changes to *University of Mary Washington TODAY*, University of Mary Washington, 1301 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5300. *University of Mary Washington TODAY* welcomes your comments.

*University of Mary Washington TODAY* is printed with nonstate funds.

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### ON THE COVER

Standing in the East Building of the National Gallery of Art, Ann Bigley Robertson '74 (center), senior exhibitions officer at the National Gallery, is surrounded by six of the seven other Mary Washington alumnae employed at the National Gallery. They are (clockwise):
Joanna Riedel Dunn '98
Nancy Moncure Deiss '60
Nicole Elizabeth Nolker '04
Anne Goska '04
Anabeth Guthrie '97
Caroline Weaver '98

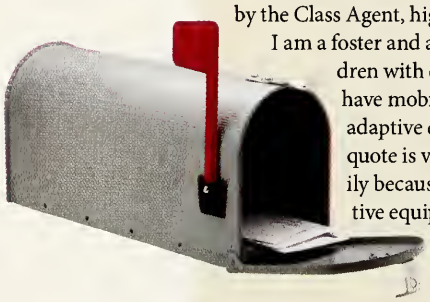
Not pictured:
Rita Plath Monner '91

*Photo by Hilary Schwab*

## Letter to the editor

To the editor:

I usually enjoy reading *TODAY*, especially Class Notes. I avidly read the notes from years I attended, page through the notes from other years, and pay special attention to comments and information highlighted in larger, brightly colored print. However, I was very disappointed with an editorial choice in the Winter 2006 issue. For the Class of 1945, on page 27, you chose to highlight a comment noting that it is "remarkable" that no member of that class used adaptive equipment for mobility on Reunion Weekend. What is remarkable is that you would chose to emphasize that trivial bit of information rather than the accomplishments of members of the class. Even though you used information submitted by the Class Agent, highlighting it is insensitive.



I am a foster and adoptive parent of six children with disabilities; three of them have mobility impairments and use adaptive equipment. The highlighted quote is very condescending, primarily because the use or non-use of adaptive equipment is not the most important thing about a 60-year reunion of alumni. And the underlying message is, "It is a great reunion when all the people who are physically fit and don't have visible disabilities get together."

How do you think a recent graduate who happens to use a wheelchair feels when they read this? How do you think a prospective student who happens to use a walker or leg braces feels when they read this? And how do you think I feel when I receive a publication that highlights the lack of visibility of people like my children?

We emphasize the things of which we are most proud. When reading the Class Notes from 1945, I noticed the family news, service activities, and friendships among these powerful women. Please do not emphasize their perceived lack of physical disabilities as their primary note.

I would be proud to send my children to UMW. The question raised by *TODAY* is, "Would UMW be just as proud to have them?"

– **Bettie Bell-Stewart '98**
Newport News, Va.

*Letters to the editor should be sent to Anna B. Billingsley at abilling@umw.edu*

Ginger Thull

*The UMW Ecology Club helped Doris Whitfield '53 (right) build a pedestrian bridge in a Fredericksburg park in memory of her husband, John K. Whitfield.*

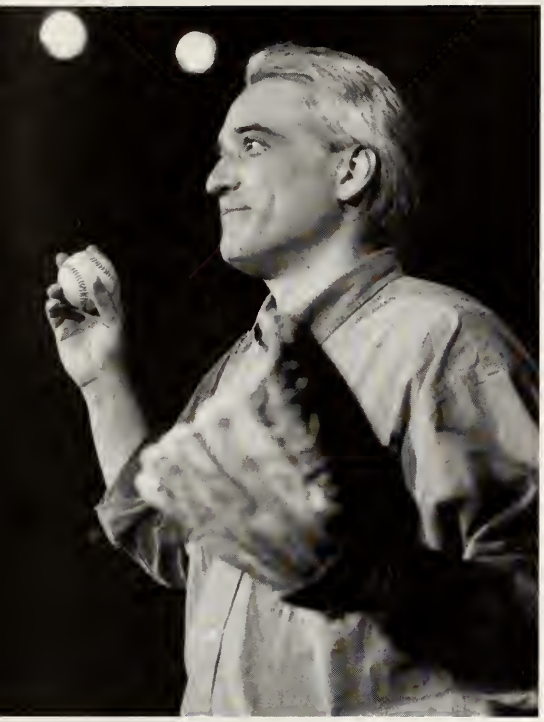
## UMW students are bridge-builders

In a collaborative effort with the City of Fredericksburg and a local environmental group, the University of Mary Washington Ecology Club helped construct a much-needed pedestrian bridge in Alum Springs Park. The club provided about $300 toward the cost of materials, as well as more than 100 hours of labor, divided among 12 members.

The bridge was dedicated to the memory of John K. Whitfield, a longtime local environmentalist. His wife, **Doris Whitfield '53**, helped with the construction efforts.

This was not the first local project in which the Ecology Club got involved. Last year, students helped control erosion on the hills in the park.

"We love doing something for the community," said Ecology Club president **Abby Lindsay '06**. "We may only be here a few years, but it's still our community."



Julie Hodge

*Christopher Kilmartin, shown here in his play* Crimes Against Nature, *will teach in Austria next spring semester on a Fulbright scholarship.*

## Professor wins Fulbright chair

Christopher Kilmartin will head to Austria early next year on a Fulbright scholarship. As Distinguished Chair in Gender Studies at the University of Klagenfurt, the UMW professor of psychology will teach three courses in spring 2007: "American Masculinity: Interdisciplinary Perspectives"; "Gender-based Violence: Origins, Consequences, and Remedies"; and "Theoretical Approaches to Gender."

Kilmartin, a licensed clinical psychologist, is a nationally recognized expert on the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment on college campuses. He co-wrote *The Pain Behind the Mask: Overcoming Masculine Depression*; he wrote *The Masculine Self* and *Sexual Assault in Context: Teaching College Men About Gender*, a manual based on his consulting experiences. Kilmartin participated as a consultant in the U.S. Department of Education's 2001 Meeting on Violence Prevention in Higher Education. He also is the author and performer of solo theatrical works *Crimes Against Nature* and the forthcoming *Guy Fi: The Fictions that Rule Men's Lives.*

The Fulbright Scholar Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, is an international exchange program that allows students, scholars and professionals to pursue international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools.

The Fulbright Distinguished Chairs Program is among the most prestigious in the Fulbright Scholar Program, according to the program Web site. The U.S. Congress began the Fulbright Scholar Program in 1946 to "enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries." It is the largest program of its kind, and it has sponsored nearly 265,000 scholars.

The University of Klagenfurt is 145 miles southwest of Vienna, Austria, and about 70 miles northeast of Trieste, Italy, and the Adriatic Sea.

## Mary Washington continues merry 25-year tradition

The towering magnolia by Monroe Hall donated boughs for the event, as did the berry-studded forest of hollies behind Lee Hall. Each December for 25 years, Mary Washington's verdant campus has been the muse for "Deck the Halls," a holiday decorating workshop presented by Fredericksburg floral designer Jan Williams. In recent years, the standing-room-only workshop has benefited The James Monroe Museum, which is administered for the Commonwealth of Virginia by UMW.

Last December, to celebrate the silver anniversary of the popular event, Williams worked her magic in the basement of Monroe Hall among buckets of rosemary, mountains of ribbon and jumbles of pine branches. As she dispensed decorating tips, she deftly wove together greenery, berries, flowers and fruit until an unruly collection of brush emerged as an elegant centerpiece. The crowded auditorium thundered with applause.

Williams is well-known in Fredericksburg as decorator of not only the home of the President of the University, but also the home of the President of the United States; for years she made holiday trimmings for The White House. Williams, the owner of Jan Williams Florals in Fredericksburg, has appeared in *Southern Living* magazine, where she and the "Deck the Halls" workshop were featured.

The James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, open since 1927, is both a Virginia Historic Landmark and a National Historic Landmark. For information on the "Deck the Halls" workshop or on the museum, call 540/654-1043.

*– Neva S. Trenis*

Neva S. Trenis

*Floral designer Jan Williams has been leading holiday workshops at UMW for a quarter century.*

## UMW is a best value

UMW was recently listed among *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine's "100 Best Values in Public Colleges."

University officials were pleased to see improvement in the institution's ranking, which moved to 22nd from 46th in 2003, the last year the magazine published the list.

"As the University continues to excel academically, the value of a Mary Washington education increases each year," said Martin Wilder, vice president for enrollment. "It is rewarding to know that our students receive a world-class education at an affordable price."

In recent years, UMW has seen its academic reputation gain national recognition through consistently high rankings in several selective college guidebooks, including *U.S. News & World Report*, *The Fiske Guide to Colleges* and *Barron's Profile of American Colleges and Universities*.

## Airport ad

When you fly in and out of Richmond International Airport, you may not be booked on first-class seats, but you can see a sign promoting a first-class institution.

## MLK Day speaker recalls magnificent movement

Neva S. Trenis

Newscaster Jim Vance and Diversity Award-winner Tamia Gilliard '06 honored Martin Luther King Jr. in January.

Well-known Washington, D.C., newscaster Jim Vance came to Dodd Auditorium to help celebrate Martin Luther King Day in January. The popular NBC4-TV anchor and winner of 15 Grammy Awards said the struggle by African Americans for equal treatment has come a long way, but there still is a long way to go. He challenged the audience to honor Dr. King's memory by working each day to continue the fight.

"Dr. King was the leader of a magnificent movement," Vance said. "But everyone can do something every day to make a difference in someone's life."

In looking back at how far the civil rights movement has come, the 64-year-old Vance remembered childhood visits to family in the South, where he saw "whites only" signs on bathrooms and sensed the fear his parents endured when a police car pulled up behind them.

And while he loved the baskets his mother packed with freshly fried chicken, rolls, potato salad and fruit jars full of iced tea for the long drive, he learned later that his mother hated staying up all night to cook that food. She resented the fact, Vance said, that a packed picnic was the only way her family could eat and drink between Pennsylvania and North Carolina. "She knew there was not a restaurant that would serve us a piece of bread, or even a drink of water," Vance said.

Even though blacks have won equal rights in many areas of the law, he said, many underprivileged people – especially children – live without hope. In his work as a newsman, he said, he knows of youngsters who don't expect to live to high school graduation; he knows of 16-year-olds who write their own obituaries.

Vance urged listeners not to be daunted by the example of Dr. King and his great legacy, but to help in small ways: volunteer at a school, be a mentor to a child.

"You never know the impact you can have on someone else's life," Vance said.

After his talk in Dodd Auditorium, Vance attended a ceremony on Campus Walk to honor Civil Rights leader James Farmer, who died in 1999. Farmer was a distinguished professor of history and American studies at Mary Washington until his retirement in 1998. **Tamia Gilliard '06** helped lay a wreath at the statue of Farmer. Later, the political science major was awarded the Diversity Leadership award, which each year is given to a senior who possesses characteristics of leadership and personal commitment to advocating an appreciation of diversity on campus. Gilliard, who lives in Woodbridge, Va., plans to go to law school after graduating in May.

*– Neva S. Trenis*

1908 2008 UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON
*The Centennial Celebration*

### Ninety-eight years and counting

*UMW will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2008. A Centennial Steering Committee is hard at work planning a number of activities to take place during the 2007-2008 academic year. Stay tuned!*

## Graduate campus expands course offerings

The UMW Board of Visitors voted in February to add five degree programs at the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. These include:

- A Master of Business Administration program in public administration will prepare students to work in public and nonprofit administration. Scheduled to begin in the fall of 2006, it will be the ninth MBA area at CGPS.
- A Bachelor of Professional Studies program in interdisciplinary studies, the sixth BPS area to be offered at the Stafford campus, will allow students to tailor a concentration to meet professional and personal needs. This, too, is set to begin in the fall of 2006. BPS is intended for adults seeking to finish a bachelor's degree.

Jack Mellott

- A Master of Education in literacy specialist program will be CGPS's sixth M.Ed. area of study for licensed, practicing teachers. This program, scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007, will lead to the reading specialist endorsement and a master of education or a postmaster's certificate. It will prepare educators for reading specialist jobs and to become literacy leaders.
- A Master of Science in Management Information Systems will provide technical and managerial knowledge and skills to prepare individuals for careers as managers of complex information systems and computing resources. If approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, this program will begin in the spring of 2007.
- An MBA-MSMIS dual degree will allow students to explore careers in two distinct fields so they will gain technical skills as well as management and leadership knowledge. If approved by SCHEV, this, too, will begin in the spring of 2007.

Also, CGPS offers the Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program via on-site videoconferencing. Students come to the Stafford campus to watch live broadcasts of courses taught at the University of Virginia and the state's four other large engineering schools. Two-way video and audio communication via high-speed lines allows CGPS students to interact with professors and students in remote classrooms.

The main goal of the program is to provide practicing engineers and scientists a convenient, part-time way to pursue master's degrees and certificates in various engineering disciplines or to update their skills as part of non degree continuing education.

## Great Lives lives on

With subject matter ranging from Moses to Malcolm X, the 2006 Great Lives lecture series continues to inspire and inform audiences. All of the lectures in this year's series are being held at 7:30 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium.

Here is the remaining lineup of lectures in what is officially known as the Chappell Lecture Series, Great Lives: Biographical Approaches to History.

March 30: "Eleanor Roosevelt," presented by Blanche Wiesen Cook of John Jay College CUNY, author of *Eleanor Roosevelt.*

April 6: "George Patton," presented by Porter Blakemore of the UMW Department of History.

April 13: "Henry Ford," presented by Steven Watts of the University of Missouri-Columbia, author of *The People's Tycoon: Henry Ford and the American Century.*

April 18: "Robert Kennedy," presented by Evan Thomas of *Newsweek* magazine, author of *Robert Kennedy: His Life.*

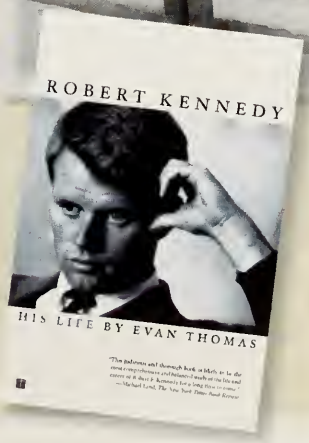
April 20: "Harry Truman," presented by Stephen Farnsworth of the UMW Department of Political Science.

April 25: "William Faulkner," presented by Michael Bibler of the UMW Department of English.

April 27: "Muhammad Ali," presented by William Nack, retired writer for *Sports Illustrated.*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

*Henry Ford*



*Shin Fujiyama's* Copprome *won "film of the festival" at the annual UMW Film Fest. In this still from the movie, children at the Copprome orphanage in Honduras receive notebooks for Christmas.*

## Festival spotlights filmmaking and fund raising

Mary Washington student filmmakers rolled out the red carpet one Friday in February not only to showcase their works, but also to raise money for orphaned Honduran children. As the cameras rolled, students strolled over the red carpet draped from a limo parked on Double Drive to the entrance of George Washington Hall. Two emcees chatted with student film "stars" and directors, à la Joan and Melissa Rivers, as video of their grand entrances played in Dodd Auditorium, home to the Student Senate Third Annual Short Film Festival, The Spectacle.

Eleven hundred students, faculty, family and friends crowded into Dodd to view 11 student films, five of which won prizes. Before the festival, a panel of faculty and students judged the 14 films submitted to the contest; they chose not only which would be featured, but also which would receive honors.

**Dylan Tuccillo '08** won first place for his animated *Coffee Break Island.* **Maura Pond '06** followed in second place with *Bounty*, and **Elise M. Tobin '06** rounded out the 3-to-15-minute category with her film *Rock, Paper, Scissors, Shoot!* **Jason Dunne '07** took home the top prize in the 60-second and under category for *Father.*

One film, though, received a standing ovation and the "Film of the Festival" award given to a movie that doesn't fit into the standard narrative category. **Shin Fujiyama**'s documentary, *Copprome: A Hope for Honduras,* consisted of footage the international affairs major had filmed while working in an orphanage in El Progreso, Honduras. Fujiyama '07 had started his own nonprofit organization to help raise money for the orphanage; the film festival committee coordinated with him to collect donations during the night of the event.

"We felt very blessed to be in a position where we could help out with his cause," said Tobin, founder and chair of the film festival. At the end of the night, Fujiyama had collected more than $2,000 from the audience, and Tuccillo added his $400 first-prize winnings. Learn more about the Honduaran orphanage project at www.StudentsHelpingHonduras.org.

Lynda Richardson

### Forever Plaid

UMW Department of Theatre and Dance presented the musical comedy *Forever Plaid* in February. It is the story of "The Plaids," an all-male harmony group of four young, earnest and music-loving friends.

## For Granted

*Leah Cox*

**Leah Cox**, director of UMW's James Farmer Scholars Program, has recently won two grants: a $9,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation and a matching grant of $25,000 from the Bank of America Foundation.

Both grants will help further the mission of the James Farmer Scholars Program, a University outreach endeavor to encourage Fredericksburg-area African-American youth to attend college. The Verizon grant will partially underwrite a week-long summer Debate Workshop to be held on the Mary Washington campus in July.

The Bank of America Foundation grant will pay general operating expenses.

Other recent grants won by UMW faculty members include:

– **Keith Mellinger**, assistant professor of mathematics, a two-year $25,576 grant from the National Security Agency for research in "Theory and Application of Incidence Structures Arising from Finite Geometries."

– **Meghan Budinger**, assistant director and curator, James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, a $5,000 Preservation Assistance Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington, D.C., for beginning the process of conserving the museum's 55-piece costume collection.

– **Medhi Aminrazavi**, professor of philosophy and religion, and **David Ambuel**, associate professor of philosophy, a $5,000 grant from the U.S.-Japan Foundation. This grant will underwrite costs associated with a spring 2006 conference on U.S. and Japanese relations to be held at UMW.

– **Deborah O'Dell**, associate professor of biology, in mentorship with student **Elena Quintiliani '06**, a $500 undergraduate research grant from the Virginia Academy of Sciences.

*– Sara Holt Pierson*
Director of Foundation and Government Grants

Karen Pearlman

## BOXED IN

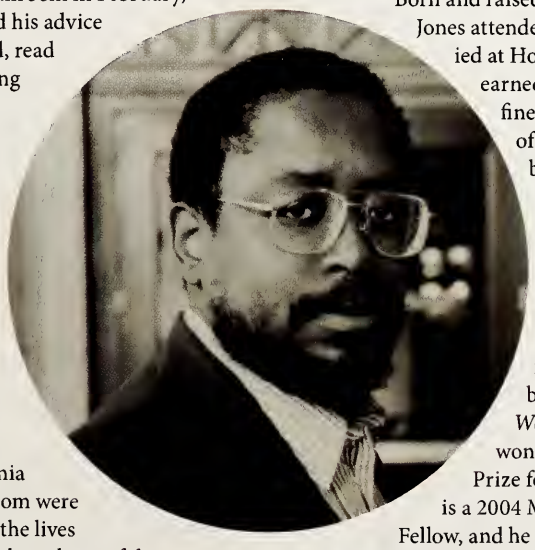
Kerry McAleer-Keeler, a former adjunct art teacher at UMW, had her work on display earlier this year in duPont Gallery. She said every object used in her box creations "is carefully thought about and holds meaning."

## Author advocates reading

When Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edward P. Jones spoke in Lee Hall Ballroom in February, one UMW student wanted his advice for aspiring writers. "Read, read and read," he told the young woman.

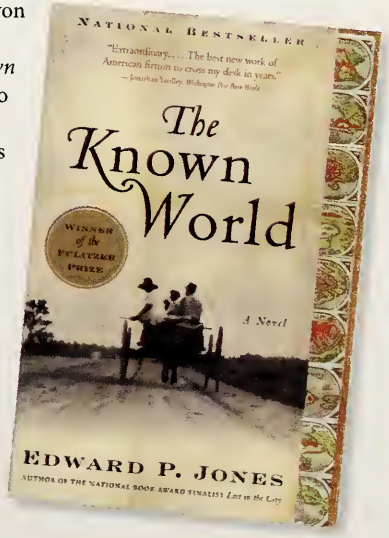
But Jones might have been preaching to the choir. The standing-room-only crowd held many avid readers, most of them fans of Jones' 2004 Pulitzer Prize winner, *The Known World*. Jones set the novel in antebellum Virginia in the fictitious Manchester County. In it, he weaves together the lives of Virginia slaveholders – some of whom were African American – with the lives of the enslaved to explore the culture of the American South.

When he visited Mary Washington, Jones read excerpts from *The Known World*, answered questions and signed books. He visited UMW as part of its celebration of Black History Month.



Born and raised in Washington, D.C., Jones attended public schools, studied at Holy Cross College, and earned a master's degree in fine arts from the University of Virginia. Jones' first book, *Lost in the City*, was published in 1992 and won the Pen/Hemingway Award. The book was short-listed for the National Book Award, which Jones won for his second book, *The Known World*, which also won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Jones is a 2004 MacArthur Fellow, and he has taught creative writing at the University of Virginia, George Mason University, the University of Maryland and Princeton University.

*– Neva S. Trenis*



Becky Sell

*No. 44 Liz Hickey and her UMW Women's Basketball teammates prepare for a game.*

# STANDING TALL

## *Sophomore overcame surgery to star on the hardwood*

Robert A. Martin, The Free Lance-Star

By Clint Often

Less than two years ago, one of the country's dominant basketball players was ready to chuck her college court career. **Liz Hickey**, now a University of Mary Washington sophomore, had just undergone surgery that left her with a steel bar in her rib cage.

Despite an arduous recovery and the fact that she plays every game with metal in her chest, Hickey has helped the Eagle women's basketball team to a historic run of success over the past two winters.

At 6 feet 3 inches tall, Hickey was a daunting presence in basketball and soccer at Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School in her hometown of Virginia Beach. As strong and as athletic as she seemed, Hickey suffered from a hereditary condition that created tension in her chest. Right after her high school graduation, Hickey underwent the serious surgery in which a steel bar was implanted to elevate her rib cage from her heart and lungs.

She thought the surgery robbed her of her chances to be a viable candidate for college basketball; she even told her high school coach, Don Proehl, not to contact colleges to recruit her.

But UMW women's basketball head coach Deena Applebury had seen Hickey on the court. And she knew some talent is worth waiting for.

"I knew the first time I saw Liz play, I wanted the opportunity to coach her," Applebury said.

Even if Hickey wasn't confident, Applebury was. "Coach Applebury spoke with me and was adamant about me playing basketball for her, even if I had to miss my freshman season to recover from the surgery," Hickey said.

With a coach who believed in her, and with a school known not only for athletics, but also for academics, Hickey headed to UMW. She was on the court just five months after surgery, helping the

UMW Eagles mount their best season ever, with 23 wins against only seven losses. With Hickey on the team, the Eagles won the program's first-ever Capital Athletic Conference championship and advanced to the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament's second round.

Like many freshman players, Hickey encountered an initial slump when moving to the collegiate level. But she quickly recovered, banking a school record of 104 blocked shots in just one season. By the end of her freshman year, she was one of the best offensive players on the team as well, shining in the CAC Championship win over Salisbury and in both NCAA Tournament games in which the Eagles played.

Applebury knew her decision to recruit Hickey had been a good one. "She's so coachable and has an amazingly high retention level," Applebury said. "Her development is fun to watch."

The 2005-06 season has been a series of unprecedented highlights for the women's basketball team, which ended its season with a 29-2 record, breaking by six the school record for victories set just last year. The Lady Eagles advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Division III women's basketball tournament, falling 62-54 to Bowdoin College on March 10 in a sectional semifinal at the University of Southern Maine. For most of the season, the team was ranked in the Top Ten nationally.

For her part, Hickey continues to develop. Though she averaged only about 21 minutes in each forty-minute game, her points per game (10.1), rebounds per game (7.1) and blocked shots (90 through 18 games) are all well above last year's output. Her blocked-shots total ranks third in the nation, and the Eagles are listed in the top 50 nationally in every statistical category, including the one that means the most to Hickey and her teammates: winning percentage.

Despite all she's overcome to be successful, Hickey has her eyes on the prize – a chance at advancing far into the NCAA tournament.

"Our returning players have had the experience of playing in the NCAA tournament, and the freshmen all came from successful programs that played in big games," Hickey said. "It's exciting to think about what we can accomplish."

Becky Sell

## CAC Honors

UMW coach Deena Applebury was named women's basketball coach of the year last month by the Capital Athletic Conference. Two of her players, junior forward Debbie Bruen and sophomore center Liz Hickey, were chosen to the all-conference first team.

# UMW Scores a Grand Slam

## *Eagles to host national tennis championships*

The University of Mary Washington has been named host for the 2006 NCAA Division III Men's Tennis Championships May 17-22. This marks the first time UMW has hosted the national championships.

UMW Athletic Director Ed Hegmann feels victorious. "Having traveled to and coached at 19 NCAA tennis national championship tournaments on various campuses throughout the country, it has always been my personal dream to host this prestigious event at home," Hegmann said.

The key, he said, is that UMW now has a comprehensive "world class" on-campus tennis complex. In addition to the 12 fully-lighted outdoor courts with seating for 600 at the Battleground Athletic Complex, UMW now boasts an adjacent state-of-the-art six-court indoor tennis center. UMW also has been selected as host for the 2008 Division III Women's National Tennis Championships.

"It's a very exciting time," said UMW men's tennis coach Todd Helbling. "Hosting an event of the caliber of the national championships provides positive exposure not only for the school and the tennis program, but also the city of Fredericksburg."

Helbling and his Eagles are seeking a fourth consecutive trip to the national quarterfinals. Behind All-American seniors **Paul Bristow** (who teamed with **Dan Uyar '04** to win the 2004 national doubles championship, the first ever by male athletes at UMW) and **Jon Clair**, as well as freshman All-American **Randy Loden**, the Eagles seem poised for another strong run toward their first team national championship.

The men's championship tournament will begin on Wednesday, May 17, with team quarterfinal action. Matches will begin at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. On Thursday, May 18, semifinal matches will take place at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., with the consolation and championship matches scheduled for Friday, May 19 at 9 a.m. and noon.

The individual portion of the championship will begin on May 20, with singles round action starting at 9 a.m. and doubles round matches starting at 3 p.m. Singles quarterfinals and semifinals will take place on Sunday at noon and 2:30 p.m., with doubles semifinals starting at 4 p.m. The championship matches will be played on Monday, May 22, at 9 a.m.

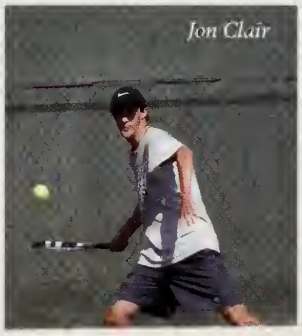
Admission to the championships is free of charge, and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Hegmann applauded alumni and other spectators who have undergone "distant and wearisome travels" over the years to see the Eagles win three national team championships, a doubles national championship and numerous top-10 national finishes. Now, he added, they "will have an opportunity to experience a true 'home-court-advantage,' as the Eagles strive for more national honors."

*– Clint Often*

Clint Often

NCAA®
2006 DIVISION III MEN'S
TENNIS
CHAMPIONSHIPS



Clint Often

Hilary Schwab

*Ann Bigley Robertson '74 is an exhibition officer at the National Gallery of Art.*

# Works in Art

## Alumni make their mark and their living in artistic pursuits

By Ruth S. Intress

**Ann Bigley Robertson** remembers Saturdays spent with her grandmother gazing at delicate porcelain and stunning portraits in a marble-halled museum.

Years later, on a high school field trip through the same gallery, Robertson recalls a transformative moment as she stood before one of Monet's wistful cathedrals. When her art teacher drew the students closer, they could see, just on the surface, how the brilliant Impressionist laid heavy strokes and splotches of paint across the canvas.

"Listening to the teacher talk about Monet," Robertson '74 said, "I was hooked." Thanks to a competing college's lack of dormitory space, Robertson brought her passion for art and literature to Mary Washington.

"I never knew there was such a thing as an art history major. I thought I wanted to be a history major and special education teacher," said Robertson. "But Mary Washington's art history department had wonderful, creative professors. You were encouraged and pushed to your potential."

Robertson continues to strive as she deals daily

with great masterpieces. She is an exhibition officer at the National Gallery of Art, the museum of her girlhood tours.

With a mathematician's exactitude, Robertson acts partly as diplomat, partly as linguist and partly as trouble-shooter in negotiating behind-the-scenes details of securing loans of great art collections from around the world.

Both academic and experiential breadth are vital, said Robertson, noting she found both at Mary Washington, where she was a dual major in art history and English. "Exhibition organization is not something you study; it's something you explore and learn about through experience."

Such experience, nurtured in her adolescent jobs as a florist shop girl, "mannequin" model and special education tutor, also has taught Robertson patience. That virtue serves her well when she coordinates challenging exhibitions ranging from Vermeer paintings to ancient Cambodian sculptures.

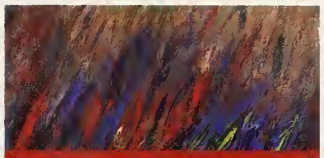
As one of the National Gallery's senior exhibition officers, Robertson administers six or more special showings a year and coordinates the myriad details and contracts that must be in place before priceless works go on view.

In the spotlight – and on the hot seat – of museum leadership is **Lisa Graziose Corrin '81**. Since leaving her native Long Island, Corrin has been flying high in the arts world, imparting her distinct interpretive mark on museums in Baltimore, London, Seattle and Williamstown, Mass.

Recently named director of the Williams College Museum of Art, as well as one of the college's lecturers in art, Corrin has joined the "Williams Mafia," a phrase coined to acknowledge the college's role in spawning several generations of academic- and museum-based leadership in art history.

"Williams traditionally has been formative in shaping individuals who have become directors of some of this country's great museums – the Guggenheim, the Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery, the Art Institute of Chicago," she said. "In appointing me, the college has paid me the greatest compliment. I will be helping mentor the people who will go on to take my job someday."

Such a coup is not likely to occur soon. Corrin, 46, established quite a reputation at the Seattle Art Museum, where she is continuing to oversee the completion of its Olympic Sculpture Park. The eight-



*"She encouraged me to question the foundations of art history, to not just accept everything I read. That is what I am still doing in my work."*

LISA G. CORRIN, DIRECTOR OF THE WILLIAMS COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART, REFERRING TO RETIRED UMW ART HISTORY PROFESSOR BARBARA MEYER

*Lisa G. Corrin '81*

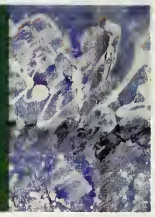
Ben Garvey, The Berkshire Eagle

Chris Stone

*Stagg, who is is pursuing a Ph.D. at University City London, worked on the Samuel Palmer exhibition.*

*"I wouldn't give up my time at Mary Washington for any big-name school."*

ALLISON STAGG



acre waterfront park, scheduled to open later this year with sculptures by distinguished, historic and newer artists, will most reflect Corrin's signature as an innovative art historian.

In her four years as deputy director and curator of modern and contemporary art at the Seattle Art Museum, Corrin was influential in helping conceive the museum's expansion and in working with other curators to recast the presentation of the collection. Rather than follow the traditional encyclopedic approach of strictly segregating cultures, Seattle's presentation features cross-cultural, cross-chronological and cross-creative relationships.

Corrin's interdisciplinary approach to art was born at Mary Washington, where she received "a broad grafting" in literature, history and sciences that served her well in various positions – as chief curator at both the Contemporary Museum of Baltimore and London's Serpentine Gallery and in her collaborations with the Victoria and Albert Museum and London's Museum of National History.

Indeed, it was through her work for the Maryland Historical Society that Corrin made a splash with her 1992 exhibit, "Mining the Museum: An Installation by Fred Wilson." Wilson, an African-American artist, reorganized the traditional historic collection through a different perspective. Corrin's book on the subject has become a standard text in many graduate courses on contemporary art and American and museum studies.

To this day, Corrin reflects on the insights of Mary Washington's retired art history professor Barbara Meyer. "She encouraged me to question the foundations of art history, to not just accept everything I read. That is what I am still doing in my work."

Corrin and Robertson are at the top of their fields. But they aren't alone among graduates of Mary Washington University's art history and studio art department who are building vibrant full-time careers in the highly competitive art world.

This surprises some, who cite the University's strong regional, if not yet national, reputation.

"Mary Washington is not a name you recognize right away," acknowledged Stephen Griffin, a studio art professor with a master of fine arts degree from the University of Wisconsin. "I've had parents of prospective students say they've looked at hundreds of colleges, but that we rise to the top."

The quality of Mary Washington's art programs prompted **Allison Stagg '02** to leave another school to enroll at the University. Later, after serving as an intern at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art

and enrolling in the graduate program at University City London, Stagg quickly realized that her Mary Washington experience distinguished her.

"There were a lot of American students from Ivy League schools. I was the only one from a small school," said Stagg, who is pursuing her doctorate in American and British art. Her dream is to become a museum curator.

Despite the competition, Stagg considers herself "the fortunate one." She said, "I wouldn't give up my time at Mary Washington for any big-name school."

The small size of the department – whose 111 majors last year ranked the two arts programs among the smallest third of University specialties – makes it a success, many say. The faculty's dedication to both majors – art history and studio art – and the many students exploring art courses, graduates add, is what breeds excellence.

"Because it was a small program, I got a lot of attention," said graphic designer **Suzanne Augugliaro '95**. "I'm not sure you'd have that intimate experience at a large institution.

"I know from graduate school that I didn't have coffee with my professors. But that's what I did with Steve Griffin and Joe Di Bella at the Eagles Nest," she said of the professors who joined Augugliaro at UMW's casual eatery.

**Nicole Nolker '04** credits art history professor Joseph Dreiss with bringing architecture and modern art alive for her. Having studied sociology, history and creative writing before "ultimately realizing art history includes all those things," Nolker said Dreiss' classes and the encouragement of Di Bella, her first adviser, helped sway her toward a concentration in art.

"It's not so much that we're wonderful people," Dreiss said. "It's about the art – the value of art. That's what I try to get across in my classes. I try to emphasize the importance of making art part of your daily life. I try to inspire students."

Inspiration for Mary Washington arts scholars comes as well from extracurricular studies on and off campus. Students work as catalogers, researchers, administrative aides and exhibition installers at the University's duPont and Ridderhof Martin

Hilary Schwab

*I studied sociology, history and creative writing before "ultimately realizing art history includes all those things."*

NICOLE NOLKER, EXHIBITION ASSISTANT AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

galleries, which hold permanent collections of more than 5,000 works.

Also, Washington, D.C., which is only an hour to the north, serves as an unparalleled backyard for arts students, who frequent the capital's libraries and collections to research papers or prepare portfolios.

Further, the art department encourages students to travel abroad – the school offers an art program in Italy – and to pursue internships at museums around the country.

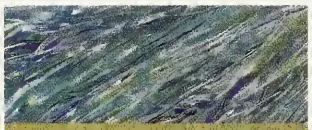
Stagg, for instance, worked in the campus galleries, studied at Oxford University and spent summers interning at various museums in New York – all before graduating. She subsequently interned at the Met, the National Gallery and the British Museum in London. "I was always encouraged to apply for major positions. Nothing was out of reach," she said.

To help students land such significant positions, the department emphasizes the importance of broad liberal arts studies and foreign language skills.

"We're teaching students to think creatively," added Griffin, a painter, photographer and printmaker. "We've had plenty of students in studio art go on to graduate school. That's usually difficult coming from a small college like ours."

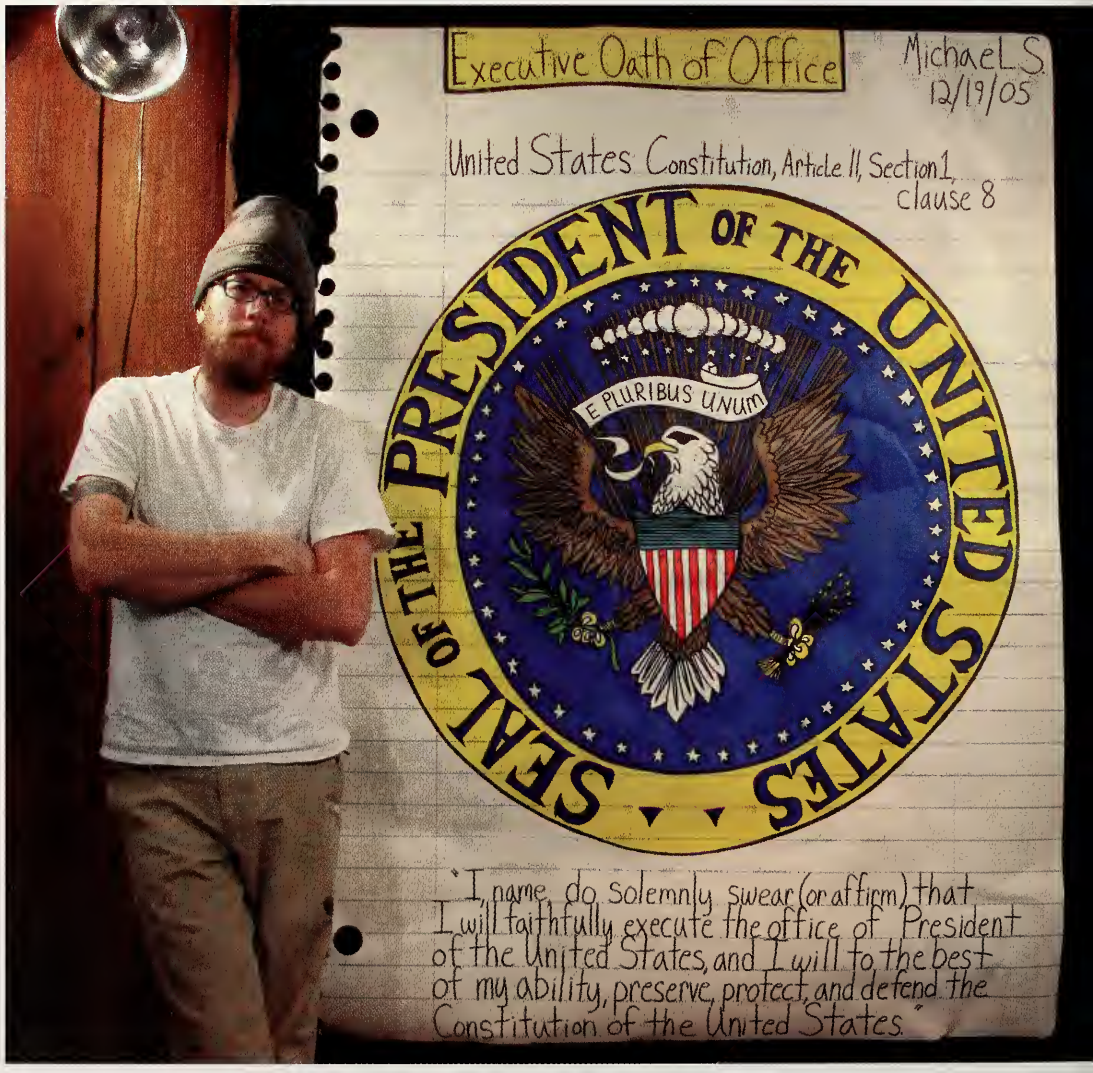
For budding artists, big-name credentials are valued less than highly creative and mature work. "The first thing galleries look at is the portfolio," Griffin said. "If the work is strong, other things don't matter as much."

"Slackers don't go into the arts," said Dreiss, an art reviewer and writer who earned his Ph.D. at the State University of New York at Binghamton. "One thing I've seen a lot is students find something in art history that they latch onto and excel in. The discipline grows out of love for what you're doing."



*"What made a difference was the individual attention I got [at Mary Washington], the ability to explore different things to find my own way."*

MICHAEL SCOGGINS, WHO HAS FOUR PIECES IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART



Take, for example, **Michael Scoggins '98**. "I had this crazy idea that I could be a professional artist and survive off it. Now, that's what I do every day and I love it," said Scoggins, 33. "My days of living on peanut butter and not sleeping may not be over, but I'm building up to where I'm steady in showings and income."

Scoggins uses the vehicle of childhood art – notebook paper – and transforms its blue lines, wrinkles and dog-eared edges into wall-sized pen and ink drawings. The text-filled canvases hang in galleries in Miami, Atlanta, Savannah and New York. His work is featured in a one-man show in New York's Chelsea arts district gallery through April 8.

In 2004, a Scoggins show in Brooklyn caught the eye of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, which purchased four of the mammoth pieces for its permanent collection. In February of this year, readers of the international art and culture magazine *Modern Painters* got a glimpse of Scoggins' work in a feature on world-renowned modern art collector Jean-Charles de Castelbajac. In it, the fashion designer is pictured in his Paris flat framed by an immense canvas crammed with childlike scrawl, *Letter*, by Scoggins.

Scoggins "hit the ground running" in his graduate studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design, followed by his acceptance in the 2003 summer residency program at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine.

But it was his years double-majoring in political science and studio art at the University – while earning tuition working in his family's Fredericksburg convenience store – that drilled him in the "tough mentality it takes" for a career in art.

"[Professor] Joe Di Bella really pushed…but he looked at me not just as a student but a fellow artist," said Scoggins. "What made a difference was the individual attention I got, the ability to explore different things to find my own way."

Di Bella exemplifies to students and colleagues the rigors and joys of art. His studio work and that of the department's other faculty resonates with students, who see in their professors how art and related work can be combined for a fulfilling career.

Connections are important, too. Augugliaro happens to be a designer and public relations coordinator at the Williams College Museum of Art. After three years there, she is relishing new challenges under Corrin's leadership. The two "get along like two houses on fire," Corrin said. Augugliaro agreed, citing their mutual studies and their shared status as alumnae of Mary Washington and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

News from art alumni about job opportunities steered Nolker, a former assistant in UMW's Ridderhof Martin Gallery, to her current position as an exhibition assistant at the National Gallery. Among seven University graduates on the staff there, Nolker works closely with Ann Robertson.

Nolker, 24, finds her work – research and coordination of hundreds of documents for several exhibitions at a time – exhilarating, if a bit frenetic. She also brought up a downside for art majors. "It can be hard to find a job in art. I worried about that after graduating, but it ended up working out for me," she said.

When meeting with students about career opportunities, Robertson puts in context the jobs available for art enthusiasts.

"You don't have to be a curator or have a degree in art history. Museums have accountants, scientists, editors, horticulturists, musicians, publicists, fund-raisers and lawyers," she said. "There's a whole world in art museums."

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*Ruth S. Intress, a free-lance writer based in Lexington, Va., has reported extensively on higher education.*

## Artist in residence

Karen Pearlman

Before graduating, **Lindsay R. Jones '06** catapulted her career. She had one of her creations accepted in a prestigious art exhibit, Mid-Atlantic New Painting 2006. The UMW studio art major's work "Annual" was among 31 entries accepted for display in the juried show at the Ridderhof Martin Gallery at Mary Washington. More than 450 works of art were submitted for the show, which was judged by Jonathan P. Binstock, curator of contemporary art at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Director of University Galleries Thomas Somma knows the significance of such a choice. "The inclusion of Lindsay Jones' painting in such a recognized professional and competitive juried exhibition is truly an impressive achievement," Somma said, "especially when you consider the fact that she is just now completing only the undergraduate phase of her training."

Jones' piece, a wall-sized collection of sketches of faces, hung alongside paintings of established artists. She used as inspiration a page in one of her father's high school yearbooks.

Jones said she plans to pursue a master of fine arts degree. Acceptance into the Mid-Atlantic show has solidified her career direction. "The experience has definitely contributed to my decision to pursue painting full time," Jones said.

# Economics 324 = Philanthropy 101

## The academics of making a difference

By Neva S. Trenis

Like most economics majors, **Tom Hayden '07** is used to studying the science of making money. But when the UMW junior opened the Mary Washington track book last summer, he found an intriguing surprise – a new class in which students are entrusted with giving money away.

By early December, the 28 students in UMW's first "Economics of Philanthropy and the Nonprofit Sector" class had awarded $10,000 to two Fredericksburg area charitable organizations. Under the guidance of Robert Rycroft, professor of economics, the undergraduates had formed a bona fide charitable foundation, hammered out a mission statement, crafted a 14-page application, and chosen two recipients from 20 grant applicants.

*Doris Buffett*

"What was great about the class was the challenge of taking $10,000 of real money and going through the process of giving it to the charity that was most worthy," Hayden said. "It doesn't sound difficult, but it really was. I didn't expect it to be as big a responsibility as it ended up being."

The money came from philanthropist Doris Buffett and her Sunshine Lady Foundation. Buffett, sister to billionaire Warren Buffett, is familiar with UMW not only because she lives in Fredericksburg, but also because her daughter, **Robin Buffett Haymes**, is a 1988 graduate.

Since Buffett founded the Sunshine Lady Foundation in 1996, it has given more than $30 million in grants for education and assistance to underprivileged children, victims of domestic violence, the working poor and families in crisis. Buffett's foundation has been generous to the Fredericksburg community, where it gave $1.5 million for the Fredericksburg Regional Boys & Girls Club.

Alex Buffett Rozek, Buffett's grandson, directs Sunshine Lady Foundation academic programs, including "Learning by Giving," the partnership with select universities that sponsored the UMW class. Buffett's foundation became interested in teaching college students about effective giving for several reasons, he said. First, the philanthropic sector is a growing force in the U.S. economy. There are 1.2 million charitable organizations accounting for 8.8 percent of the Gross National Product and employing 11 percent of the U.S. workforce. Second, Rozek said, donors are no longer content to hand over money only to get a plaque engraved with their names. Givers demand that nonprofits spend money wisely.

With these factors in mind, Rozek said, Buffett thought undergraduates should learn the ins and outs of nonprofits before they enter the "real" world. In 2003, the Sunshine Lady Foundation formed a partnership with Davidson College to offer a class called "Philanthropy and the Non-profit Sector." That class was such a success that Buffett's foundation approached the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce, which offered a similar class in spring of 2005, and UMW, which offered its class for the first time last fall.

"This is not a class that is meant to address the ills of society," Rozek said. "We want to give students the tools to understand how – within philanthropic organizations or nonprofits – to look at different ways to allocate money and do it in the most effective way possible. It's almost a course on investment, learning how to spend money in a way that will get the best return."

The UMW class announced its "investments" at a December 2005 ceremony in the Jepson Alumni Executive Center. Rozek and Buffett were there, along with journalists from such newspapers as *The Washington Post* and *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, community leaders, UMW students, professors and administrators. The crowd applauded as the class presented $5,000 checks to Fredericksburg Regional Boys & Girls Club and Rappahannock Refuge Inc./Hope House, a women's shelter.

Though Buffett and her foundation had not stipulated how the class should choose recipients,

the students could see from her look of satisfaction that she approved of their choices. And she said as much when she addressed the students at the end of the ceremony. "I had nothing to do with it," she said of their work, "but you certainly hit it on the head as far as I'm concerned."

Rozek said the Sunshine Lady Foundation was pleased not only with the students and their decisions, but also with Rycroft's innovative teaching methods. Rycroft divided the students into two working committees, made contacts with local nonprofit organizations, and stipulated that the money be given to organizations in the Fredericksburg area. The work of the student-run E.C.O.N.O.M.I.C.S. Foundation (an acronym for "Economics Class On Nonprofit Organizations Mightily Improving Community Services") went entirely to the undergraduates.

The combination of hard-working students, an effective professor and support from the University, Rozek said, led the Sunshine Lady Foundation to offer funding for the class for at least three more years.

"Mary Washington did a great job," Rozek said.

Rycroft is as eager to teach the course the second time as he was the first. Though not a specialist in the economics of philanthropy, Rycroft jumped at the opportunity to take on such a task, he said. Many economics professors get the opportunity to teach about the nonprofit sector, but it's rare to get to help students give away $10,000 – no strings attached – to a nonprofit group.

"You don't have the chance to offer college classes like this one very often," Rycroft said.

"I had virtually every spectrum of the nonprofit community represented in the class," Rycroft said. "My students really got a picture of what the nonprofit sector is."

The student committees ran the foundation: One committee crafted a mission statement and developed an application, the other received and read applications and made recommendations to the class about who should get the money. All final decisions were made by vote of the class.

"I counted the votes," said Rycroft, who was not a member of the foundation.

Political science major **Andrea Keefer '06** found freedom in Rycroft's "hands-off" approach; it was what made the class a success, she said. The professor's assignments provided the background and motivation needed by 28 smart, engaged students – each with strong ideas about where the money should go. They would not have learned so much, or worked so hard, had they been micromanaged, Keefer said.

An example of that came early in the semester when it was time to write a mission statement to determine the purpose of the group. The class discussion was contentious, people argued passionately, and many students were uncomfortable, but the exercise had good results. The clash illustrated how strongly members felt about their mission, Keefer said, something common in philanthropic organizations. And, the process alerted the group to difficulties of teamwork and nonprofit giving.

"Most of the time you would never have a class where it was that confrontational, but it was good because it woke us up. It gave us an insight into how heated the final decision could be, and it caused us to make a system that avoided that," Keefer said. "Dr. Rycroft gave us such well thought-out assignments, and he just let us run the class, but it never would have worked out without all his work and planning."

The difficult early days of the semester and long hours spent in preparation paid off. When it was time to select from among 20 applicants, the class chose their top two without rancor.

News of Rycroft's class was carried not only by local, state and national media. It gained international attention when an Italian Web site devoted to philanthropy picked up the story, followed by a spot on mtvU and an article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. For Rycroft, who has spent his career in a discipline that concerns itself mostly with the abstract, having his work spotlighted was a new phenomenon.

"I admit getting the positive publicity around the city and around the world was kind of fun," Rycroft said.

As for Tom Hayden and his classmates, what they got from the class was the real-world experience of working with colleagues to make an important decision. And they got the satisfaction of helping others.

"The best was the day we gave the money away," Hayden said. "It was just awesome to see the look on the two charity directors' faces. It made me feel like I made a difference." ■

Neva S. Trenis

*Pam Garrett, executive director of Hope House women's shelter, accepts a check from professor Robert Rycroft.*

*Rycroft and the students of Econ 324 had their work ahead of them at the beginning of the semester: build a philanthropic organization from the ground up and award $10,000 to a local charity.*

Tom Hayden

# A Towering Tribute

## *Centennial campanile honors Carmen Culpeper Chappell*

By Donna Harter Raab

John Chappell's first contact with Mary Washington came in the fall of 1958 when, as a young officer in training at Quantico, he went on a blind date with English major **Carmen Culpeper '59**. The couple dated for several months before Chappell completed his training and left town.

During those months, he formed a lasting bond with both Carmen and the campus. "She was a long way from her family and home in Puerto Rico, but Carmen absolutely loved Mary Washington," Chappell said in a recent interview. "She had a wonderful time, made many strong friends and pursued a multitude of interests including reading, architecture and nature."

After graduation, Carmen returned to her family home in Puerto Rico. She and John married in 1961 and lived in various places around the world. Throughout their many moves, they maintained contact with her Mary Washington friends and kept up with campus happenings.

"Carmen always sent in her Class Notes and was happy to share news of our two children, Jennifer and Eric," John Chappell said. The Chappells often returned to Mary Washington for class reunions; in 2000, Carmen began serving on the fund-raising and decorating committees for the Jepson Alumni Executive Center. "She really enjoyed being back on campus on a regular basis and, of course, indulging her interest in architecture," John said.

Unfortunately, Carmen did not live to see the completion of that building. She died in 2003 from complications of breast cancer.

To celebrate her life, her love of learning and her loyalty to Mary Washington, the Chappell family searched for ways to honor Carmen's memory. Two diverse projects emerged: funding of the Great Lives Lecture Series and construction of a bell tower, or campanile, in commemoration of the University's centennial. "I know Carmen would love to be able to add to the overall campus experience," John Chappell said. "As a focal point on campus, I think the Centennial campanile will be visually appealing and perhaps spiritually uplifting."

The new structure will be located within the traffic circle near George Washington Hall and the beginning of Campus Walk. Construction is set to begin this summer. The 88-foot tower will be made of red brick and white material to match the traditional Georgian Revival architectural style of other campus buildings. The base will be approximately 21 square feet and will include a water fountain dedicated to Carmen's class, the Class of 1959.

"Carmen and her classmates spent wonderful, one-of-a-kind years at Mary Washington in the late '50s," John Chappell said. And he predicts many more special times, he said, as the University prepares for its 2008 Centennial celebration. ■

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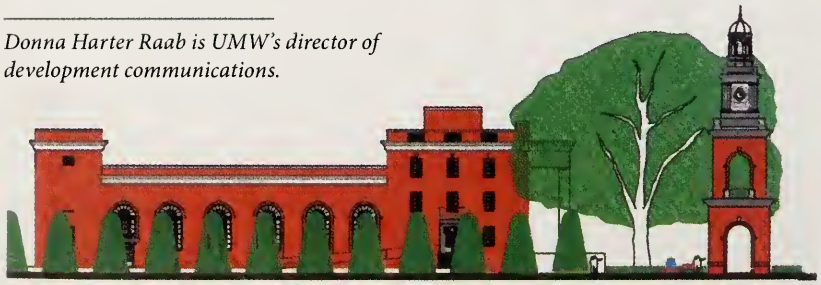
*Donna Harter Raab is UMW's director of development communications.*

*John Chappell (standing, left) is flanked by family members. Bottom row left to right: Drew Paradis, Naomi Paradis, Dara Chappell, Doug Paradis; center row: Jennifer Chappell Paradis and Nicole Paradis; top row: Eric Chappell.*

*Carmen Culpeper (center) was associate editor of* The Bullet *her senior year. She is shown here in the 1959 yearbook with Joyce Fooks '60 (left) and Vickie Biggers '61 (right).*



*The campanile (Italian for "bell tower") was designed by Robert A. Boynton of Boynton Rothschild Rowland Architects in Richmond. In addition to being the design architect, Boynton is also the parent of Jennifer A. Boynton '95.*

Robert A. Martin

# Cycling Into a Career

## *UMW senior takes the lead*

By Edie Gross

One minute, Aidan Charles '06 was firmly planted in the seat of his racing bike. The next, he was bouncing off the windshield of a car.

Charles doesn't remember much about the July 2003 accident in his hometown of Middletown, Conn. His kidneys were damaged, his lungs were bruised, and it was a full month before he could walk again. But none of that would keep the avid cyclist off his bike.

"I got back on the bike before I could walk completely," said Charles, who, as a founder and member of the University of Mary Washington's Cycling Club would come in fourth in the Virginia State Road Race Championship less than two months after his crash. "I think the rest might've been good for me."

Charles' passion for cycling started in middle school when an older friend of the family encouraged him to give it a whirl. It continued last summer with an invitation to a cycling center in Belgium, where an exclusive group of America's best cyclists are trained to race at the ultra-competitive European pro level.

Charles, 22, is just weeks away from earning his bachelor's degree in biology with an emphasis on nutrition. His European training and his education at Mary Washington have catapulted him into a dream career.

Last fall, he founded Charles Coaching and Nutrition Services (www.charlescoaching.com) using his science skills to assess the health and endurance of other athletes and his cycling experience to coach and mentor them.

Charles trains daily, cycling along busy Fredericksburg roads and quieter rural routes, to and from Washington, D.C., or through Virginia's mountains.

As a junior, Charles wanted to step up his training, so he applied to Belgium's Cycling Center, an elite racing school that teaches athletes the ins and outs of pro competition. Thousands apply for the 20 or so

slots available to American cyclists for a six-week program at the end of spring, said Charles.

"I didn't really expect to get in, but I was accepted and it was just nuts," said Charles, who impressed coaches so much that they asked him to stay for the rest of the summer.

Charles competed in three to four races a week, jouncing over narrow, cobble-stoned streets at upwards of 35 mph alongside other cyclists not more than a finger-length's distance from his bike.

He faced many European pros, but the amateur racers – those still struggling to make it to the big leagues – were even tougher competitors to some extent, Charles said.

"You'd hear a thud over to your left, and that's some guy punching another guy in the ribs. At the amateur level, they're basically living their life around cycling. They're all like a pack of dogs scrapping for one piece of food," Charles said.

While his body was getting a workout, so was his brain, he added. His European coaches taught him to strategize while cycling, to focus on getting ahead while conserving his energy during hours-long races.

"To race these guys, you've got to be pushing it. You've got to dig incredibly deep," Charles said. "There's so much more than just fitness. You can be fit and race like an idiot, and you're screwed. It's like playing chess and running a marathon at the same time."

Since returning to Mary Washington, Charles has competed on the Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Elite cycling team and he coaches the North Atlantic Junior U.S. Regional Team, which features riders 18 and younger. He still manages to find time to carry 16 hours of classes and serve as a resident assistant at the University Apartments.

"It's about organization. I'm more productive now than I've ever been," Charles said. "I can ride in the mornings, coach and make calls in the afternoons. It doesn't get any better than that. My life after school will be biking, and that's fantastic."

Athleticism runs in the Charles family. Aidan's parents, Keith and Pat Charles, both started fencing as teenagers. Keith Charles ranked fifth in the country in the under-20 level and his wife, Pat, competed on a pre-Olympic squad before having children, Keith Charles said.

"We recognize the value in sport, regardless of the outcome," said Keith Charles, who has four sons. "The value is in the process of doing it, learning what it's like to win and more importantly, what it's like to lose. We encouraged them to do anything they were willing to suffer for."

Some of Charles' middle school friends enjoyed mountain biking, and he took that up for fun. "I was very competitive," he said. "I always wanted to be first up the hill."

"He started getting into it, and he got the bug," his father said. "It grew from there."

Arlen Wenzel, 36, said he was biking around Middletown, Conn., when he spotted Charles, then about 16, on his bike. As a teenager, Wenzel said he was coached by older cyclists, and he wanted to offer the same sort of encouragement to Charles.

"It was basically a two-year stint where he was my surrogate child," said Wenzel, who rode with Charles daily while the younger cyclist was in high school. "I think it's a natural evolution in this sport – you're first the student and then you become the teacher."

Charles' training alongside experienced cyclists helped him flourish in races against kids his own age. He became one of the top junior riders in New England while racing with the New

England Cycling Support Association Team. He also represented the United States in international competitions in Canada and Cuba.

Two of Charles' three brothers are competitive swimmers, and Charles himself competed on Mary Washington's swim team his freshman year before deciding to devote full time to cycling. He talked swim teammate **Steven Bednash '06** into becoming his training partner.

"He convinced me to buy a bike," said Bednash, who swam one more season with the Eagles before he became a cycling devotee. "It was definitely a challenge because I'd never done that before. Cycling is just a totally different thing. It's the difference between staring at the bottom of a pool for three hours and riding around the country for three hours. I'm glad I chose the different scenery."

Bednash and Charles established UMW's Cycling Club their sophomore year. The team now has about 20 members who compete in National Collegiate Cycling Association events.

After his experience in Belgium, Charles has been able to pass along tactical tips to his Mary Washington teammates, said Bednash, also a senior biology major.

"He's a really good coach. He knows his stuff," Bednash said. "People sometimes will coach people or oversee somebody else's training as a side thing. Aidan, he wants this as his job."

Charles looks forward to combining his college science education with his lifelong athletic passion. "My career's hopefully going to be based around this sport," he said. "I'm really lucky." ■

*Edie Gross is an adjunct journalism professor at UMW.*

Robert A. Martin

*Aidan Charles*

# Aha...Anthro Discipline

By Anna Barron Billingsley

***an-thro-pol-o-gy*** *n*

*The study of humankind in all its aspects, especially human culture or human development.*

Professor Margaret Huber knows a thing or two about anthropology. During her three decades at Mary Washington, she has had to learn the meaning of something else.

***pa-tience*** *n*

*The ability to endure waiting or delay without becoming annoyed or upset.*

In May, when seven students graduate from University of Mary Washington with majors in anthropology, Huber may very well toss her mortar board into the air and let out a cheer. She has waited 32 years for this to happen. "When I was hired in 1974," said the distinguished professor of anthropology, "I was asked to start an anthropology program and to offer anthropology as a major."

She did the first, but several factors intervened to hinder her second mission, Huber said, including a downturn in the economy and changes in administration. Though disheartened, Huber never was deterred.

Throughout the years, students have pursued anthropology and have come as close as possible at Mary Washington to majoring in the discipline – a sociology major with a concentration in anthropology.

"That has worked," Huber said, "but we really are two separate disciplines."

As one student put it: "I think making anthro students officially major in sociology for all those years was a little like telling biology students that they have to major in chemistry because 'chemistry and biology are so closely related.' "

"Anthropology students just had to spend a lot of time with me," said Huber, who initially was the only one teaching the subject. Gradually, the discipline has grown; several adjuncts were added in the 1980s and now, in addition to Huber, there are two full-time anthropology faculty members.

As the department grew and student interest in anthropology accelerated, the case for making it a major became stronger.

In a self-study conducted prior to Mary Washington's official designation as a university in 2004, adding an anthropology major topped the list of proposed new initiatives. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approved the addition in January of last year, paving the way for course requirements to be listed in the most recent catalog and for the first majors to be awarded this May. Anthropology is UMW's first new major since 1980.

Applause is coming not only from current students, but also from alumni sociology majors who concentrated in anthropology.

"It feels good to know that the University recognizes our discipline's intellectual contributions to the world," said **Bryce Davenport '06**, one of the institution's first anthropology majors.

"Go Mary Washington Anthro Department!" exclaimed **Catherine Littlehale Oki '00** in an e-mail responding to news of the new major. "Now anthropology students can actually have a diploma that truly represents their academic choice."

That choice came unexpectedly for Oki in a freshman anthropology class where she learned a new definition of culture: a set of unwritten but deeply understood rules that govern behavior.

"It was an aha moment," wrote Oki, who lives in Japan and runs an English school for children. "I felt that in one 45-minute class a lot of questions I had always asked about humans had just been answered. I knew immediately that I wanted to major in anthropology."

The decision wasn't as deep for Davenport. "How can you resist a course called 'The Anthropology of Star Trek?' " Seriously, he added, "I came into college wanting to be an archeologist and I saw anthropology as being the next best thing or a stepping stone."

Mary Washington offers cultural and social anthropology, Huber said, not physical, or archeological, anthropology. Even so, a number of graduates have pursued archeology. Others have earned advanced degrees in anthropology, and many have lived with and worked among people of other cultures.

Despite the fact that no major has been offered, alumni praised the department and especially Margaret Huber, who is described as passionate and persistent. A number of students credited Mary Washington anthropology faculty with opening not only their minds, but also doors.

# pology finally becomes major

*Margaret Huber (center), distinguished professor of anthropology, has waited 32 years for her area to become an official major at Mary Washington. Here she and Assistant Professor Jason James (far left) are surrounded by senior anthropology students (clockwise from bottom left) Talia Miller, Bryce Davenport, Jaclyn Nelson, Heather McKenzie, Emily Campbell and Joseph Moore. Laura Schulte is not pictured.*

Robert A. Martin

**Anne Coyner Schatz '97**, who recently earned a master's degree in linguistic anthropology, worked as a student intern in the Navajo nation at Chinle, Ariz. "The experience was invaluable and has colored my views of everything since. I am certain I would not have been able to have this experience had I attended another college or university."

After graduating in 2000, **John Osterman** headed for the Peace Corps. It wasn't until he began a graduate program in anthropology at the University of Virginia that he fully appreciated his undergraduate training. "I'm realizing now that I am in graduate school just how well the anthropology department at Mary Washington prepared me for more advanced studies."

**Andrew Craver '02**, a Peace Corps volunteer in Kyrgyzstan, said his anthro classes not only prepared him for a variety of careers, but they were enjoyable and enlightening. "Where else can you learn about Bolivian mine gods, ritual homosexuality in New Guinea, and the Easter bunny as an inversion of Santa?"

For **Jaclyn Nelson '06**, studying anthropology has broadened her horizons. "Anthropology magnifies exactly how much a product of your society and time you really are.

"I see anthropology as a reality check – a reminder that where I am and who I am is a very small cog in a far larger machine."

Or, as classmate **Heather McKenzie '06** put it: "Learning about other cultures allows you to appreciate your own in a new light."

*Eric Gable*

ANTHROPOLOGY FACULTY:

*Margaret Huber*

*Jason James*

# Graduate Campus becomes World Class

By Christine Neuberger

Becky Zhang carries a cell phone and relies on computer technology to nurture the company she started last year. The high-tech conveniences of her life in suburban Fredericksburg contrast sharply with the poverty of her upbringing halfway around the world on a rice farm in rural China.

Zhang, a master of business administration student at University of Mary Washington's College of Graduate and Professional Studies, is among a small yet growing group of CGPS students who hail from other countries. Fourteen non-U.S. citizens were enrolled in CGPS degree programs in fall 2005, according to Director of Institutional Research Mathew Wilkerson. That's up from the six enrolled in fall 2004.

Karen Pearlman

*Hari K. Pudasaini, a native of Nepal, drives from Northern Virginia to attend class at CGPS.*

These figures don't capture every "international student." One is Nazli Egemen, a graduate student and dual U.S.-Turkish citizen who has lived mostly in her native Turkey.

These students increase the diversity of a campus that attracts adult students employed in varied fields and who range in age generally from their 20s to their 50s. The presence of international students enhances classmates' knowledge of and ability to work in a global economy and a multicultural society, said Sallie Washington Braxton, director of advising and student services at CGPS.

"We have people from all over, and the diversity they bring from living in another culture is fantastic," Braxton said. "We have an international society now, and students need to prepare for that or they won't be as effective in the work world."

Hari K. Pudasaini, 34, holds a master's degree in statistics from Nepal, where he taught high school math and college statistics, all in English. Now living in Northern Virginia and hoping to teach high school math, Pudasaini drives to CGPS for graduate education studies.

Until he's licensed to teach, he'll make ends meet in other ways. For now, Pudasaini works as a motel clerk and as a gas station cashier. Two years ago, he and his young family left Nepal's capital city of Katmandu in search of better work opportunities in the United States: "The USA is a big and very rich country. It has a lot of resources, well-equipped facilities, great development of technology, and a lot of development in various fields. We might get a very good opportunity. I can make a better life here than what I used to have in my country."

Becky Zhang's journey began in a village that often lacked electricity and that she describes as "very backward." Zhang's family ate mainly rice and vegetables. "We owed lots of money," said Zhang, whose first name, Guojiao, is pronounced "Go-Jow." She uses the nickname "Becky."

Every year, debtors descended on Zhang's family home, seizing cookware and anything else of value, even the roof. Young Zhang and her older siblings hiked daily into the mountains to collect firewood for cooking, their shoulders heavily loaded for the trek home.

The hardships contrasted sharply with the affluence that Zhang's father knew as a child. Well-educated, he grew up in a prosperous household – until the government took his family's extensive land holdings in the 1940s.

Zhang's father supported his family as a carpenter and rice farmer. His wife sold homemade tofu and raised chickens and pigs in order to sell eggs and piglets.

Now 25 and married, Zhang draws inspiration from her childhood difficulties and her hard-working family. She singles out her mother, who had no education but instilled in her children deep conviction about its importance. "My mother was always thinking that education could help the family," Zhang said recently. "She hoped it could change something."

So, despite objections from others, Zhang's mother sent her brood of six – five of them girls – to school. From age 6, Zhang walked four miles round trip to receive her education. She did her homework by candlelight.

Zhang summed up her previous existence: "It was not so nice, like [it is] here."

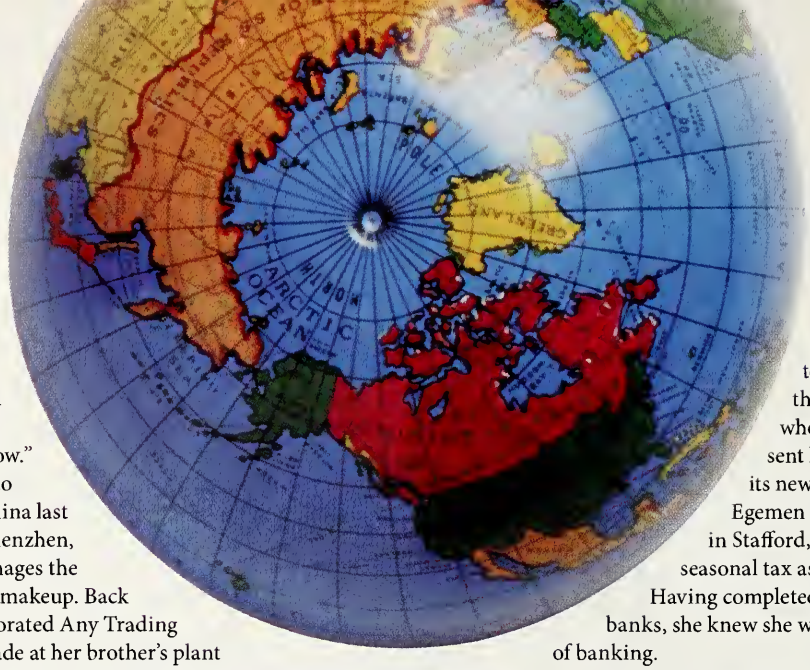
The family's fortunes improved dramatically in the 1990s. Zhang's second oldest sister left home to look for a job. Her hard work in Hong Kong eventually paid off; she opened her own real estate business and found phenomenal success. "She was a millionaire in U.S. dollars at age 25. That's when she changed the family," Zhang said.

With her sister's support, Zhang satisfied her yearning to venture beyond China. Denied a visa to attend a university in Iowa, Zhang headed to the Marshall Islands, armed with $12,000 that her sister provided for housing and tuition. "I never asked for money again," Zhang noted. "I wanted to be independent. I wanted to see the world."

Zhang polished her English while managing a restaurant and bar. On the job, she met a U.S. Department of State administrative officer whom she married two years later. By 2003, Zhang had earned an associate degree and relocated with her new husband to Virginia.

"Especially in my hometown, no one else went overseas to go to school, and only a few of my classmates got a university degree in China," Zhang said, describing with pride the personal signifi-

*Becky Zhang lived on a rice farm in China as a child. She is pursuing a master's degree in business administration.*




cance of the bachelor's degree she earned from Strayer University in 2004. "It's a lot of prestige.

"School is most important to me," said Zhang, who was recently admitted to CGPS's MBA program. "I'm looking for education to extend my knowledge of business practices. There are so many things I don't know."

What Zhang does know is how to start a business. During a visit to China last year, she opened a beauty shop in Shenzhen, where her parents live. A friend manages the shop, which specializes in nails and makeup. Back home in Stafford, Zhang has incorporated Any Trading Inc. She imports women's purses made at her brother's plant in China. Zhang plans to offer cashmere sweaters, shawls and more. She believes her understanding of Asian and American cultures gives her a competitive edge.

The Turkish-born Nazli Egemen, too, has firsthand knowledge of cultures outside the United States – and she delights in sharing her insights during MBA class discussions. While Egemen doesn't have as much work experience to share as some classmates, her observations about life and cultures overseas prompt other students to listen.

"Maybe they're trying hard to hear and understand me," Egemen said, smiling. "But people are very interested when I talk about what I know. I'm learning a lot, but I feel I'm contributing, too. I am bringing in what I know about other countries."

Egemen knows a lot. She lived most of her 25 years in Turkey, which is widely regarded as the country that bridges the West and the Mideast. She became enamored with the United States as a foreign exchange student. After earning a high school diploma in California, Egemen returned to her hometown, the Turkish capital city of Ankara, to complete her bachelor's degree.

*Nazli Egemen, an MBA student, lived most of her 25 years in Turkey. She and her husband live in Stafford.*

Christine Neuberger

She longed to return to the United States, though. She got her wish when a Turkish company sent her husband to work in its new U.S. office in 2003. Egemen and her husband settled in Stafford, and she found work as a seasonal tax associate for H&R Block. Having completed internships at Turkish banks, she knew she wanted to enter the field of banking.

Egemen eventually was hired at a bank branch in suburban Fredericksburg. She realized that a graduate business degree would help hone her managerial skills, so in 2005 Egemen enrolled in the MBA program at the Stafford campus, located just minutes from her home.

With English her second language, Egemen has worked hard, especially at preparing papers, and she's relied on the CGPS Writing Center for support. Egemen feels the extra effort she invests in her courses has paid off. She recently was promoted to assistant branch manager of the bank, where she said she applies lessons she's learned in the classroom.

"I enjoy every second of class," Egemen said. "You think you'll never use what you learn. But almost everything I learn makes a difference on the job. I can feel the difference."

It's not easy to work full time while carrying a heavy class load, but Egemen has done just that in hopes of graduating in May. Her demanding schedule takes a toll, she said. "It is very stressful. My days involve getting up and going to work, then going to school and I'm home about 9:45 at night." She usually spends every weekend working and studying.

She credits her husband with helping her maintain such a hectic schedule. "He cooks and he cleans. And he is my emotional support especially since the rest of my family is so far away. He gives me courage, a reason to smile and keep going even on the most stressful days. He is wonderful."

Egemen's parents plan to travel from Ankara this spring to see her graduate. Her mother is an attorney and her father is a neurosurgeon and professor. Like Nazli, her father holds dual U.S.-Turkish citizenship. Egemen has a brother who works as a mechanical engineer in Philadelphia.

The perspective and insights of students such as Egemen can serve to instruct others in the University community, said Elizabeth P. Harper, associate dean of admissions for adult programs. "They help us learn by being here," Harper said. "They bring an incredible perspective to our classrooms. Whether our students are in education or in business, they pull other students out of their Americentric perspective."

# Q&A

## President William M. Anderson Jr.

On July 1, **President William M. Anderson Jr.** will end his three-decade tenure at Mary Washington. He and his family will move from Brompton to Hilton Head, S.C. President Anderson was gracious enough to engage in a parting question-and-answer session with *University of Mary Washington TODAY.* During the wide-ranging discussion, Dr. Anderson revealed through his words, his gestures and his expressions a deep-seated affection for and devotion to Mary Washington.

**Q. What do you love most about Mary Washington?**

A. *Its people – the people who work here, the people who go to school here, the people who serve on its boards.*

**Q. What will you miss most about Mary Washington?**

A. *Its people.*

**Q. How would you describe yourself?**

A. *Conservative, reserved, traditional in my thinking, totally consumed by this institution.*

**Q. What matters most to you?**

A. *This place...the exposure to many different types of people. My grandchildren, my children, my wife – they all mean an awful lot to me. I look forward to having more time to spend with them. I want to take them on trips so they will get to see people in different parts of the world. [Instead of the President's Travel Club], I will lead a Grandad's Travel Club.*

**Q. What motivates you?**

A. *A positive attitude. I believe in not giving up. Sheer fear also can be a great motivator. That's what I experienced in the hospital [after suffering a brain aneurysm in 1996]. A nurse brought in a wheelchair with my name on it. A doctor told my wife to find a nursing home for me. Those were horrendous moments. I was determined to walk again. Wheelchairs and I did not get along.*

**Q. What books have you read lately?**

A. One Christmas in Washington. *I love reading about Churchill and Roosevelt. I like biographies. I read extensively about the founding fathers and that time period. I like to study different cultures. I am reading* The Earth is Flat *now.*

**Q. What spot at Mary Washington is the most special for you?**

A. *The backyard area of Brompton. It's a little piece of the country located in the city. I like its quaintness...the history of the whole area unfolds below.*

**Q. Who inspires you?**

A. *I was greatly inspired by the dean of the business school at Virginia Commonwealth University, Curtis Hall. I worked my way through undergraduate and graduate school. I will never forget sitting in his office one morning. I had been working so hard and I was so tired. He said to me, 'It's all in your attitude. Look on the bright side: You are working toward something.' He helped me see that life is all about how to get along with and work with people. Now, I tell students all the time, 'You come here equipped with the best thing in the world: your attitude. You have total control over it. All you have to do is perfect it. It can make you or break you.'*

*Another great inspiration has been Roy McTarnaghan. He was associate director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and brought me on board. We have been lifelong friends. He just retired as executive vice chancellor of the Florida university system.*

*Of course, former Mary Washington president Dr. Prince B. Woodard, whom I worked for both in Virginia and at the West Virginia Board of Regents, was also a great mentor and inspiration to me. He taught me what hard work was all about. He was really a man of his word, and a man not concerned about making the hard decisions.*

**Q. What are your post-Mary Washington plans?**

A. *I look forward to something I haven't had in the past 33 years: control over my schedule. I plan on doing things I want to do when I want to do them. I think it's kind of exciting. ... I'm looking forward to more time to study, to read, to travel. I intend to learn languages and use the phenomenal powers of the Internet. With a computer, it doesn't matter where you live, you have access to treasures.*

**Q. What would you like your legacy to be?**

A. *I would like to be able to look at this institution and see it continue to improve year after year...to remain an inspiring academic environment that continues to draw the best and the brightest to study here and to teach here.*

*I am proud that we have kept the human scale of the enterprise intentionally small. So many teachers' colleges have been transformed by growing larger. What we have done here is respect our strengths. The future is so bright, [Mary Washington] can go in many different directions.*

*[My successor] will not be coming in to solve problems, but to continue building. I would like to believe I helped put the institution in an excellent position for this transition. It's a classy place; it deserves a classy transition.*

*I am excited about my new status: No. 1 UMW cheerleader.*

*A compilation of recently released books authored by Mary Washington faculty members, alumni and friends.*

## Book explores birth options

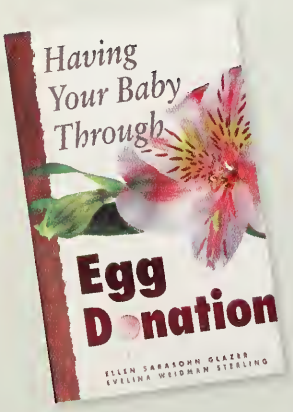
**Evelina Weidman Sterling '92**, a certified health education specialist, has written ***Having Your Baby Through Egg Donation.*** The book, coauthored by infertility coach Ellen Sarasohn Glazer, is the first comprehensive examination of the concept of having children through donated ova. In an effort to help women decide if this option is right for them, the book offers medical, financial, ethical, theological and parenting information.

Sterling is currently a doctoral student at Georgia State University where her research interests lie in issues of public health, gender and sexuality. After graduating from Mary Washington, she earned a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

Sterling has worked for the American Association for Health Education, the Health Resources and Services Administration, Gallaudet University and the American Heart Association. In addition to seeking her doctoral degree, she works as a consultant to nonprofit and government agencies. Her areas of expertise are program planning, evaluation and health services research.

Sterling lives in Marietta, Ga., with her husband and two children.

*– Marie N. Purkert '07*

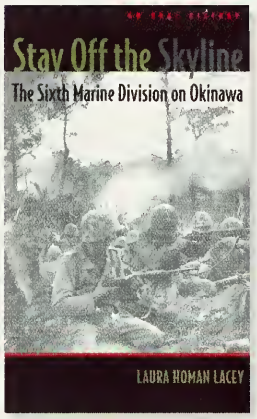



## Marine Memoirs

**Laura Lacey '91** has never had to fight in a battle. She has never had to be in a combat zone. But her admiration for those who have is evident in her book *Stay Off the Skyline: The Sixth Marine Division on Okinawa – An Oral History.*

Her connection to Marines comes from being the daughter of one, the wife of another and the mother of a Marine officer candidate. But her infatuation with the Battle of Okinawa began when her husband was stationed in Okinawa from 1994-1997. The 50th anniversary of the battle took place in 1995, and Lacey found herself in the right place at the right time – at a reunion gathering of Marines who served there.

She then began to work at the Battle of Okinawa Museum and also gave Okinawa battlefield tours to both military and tourist groups. She became active in the 6th Marine Division Association after attending its 1996 reunion. She was named a lifetime member and eventually became the group's historian.



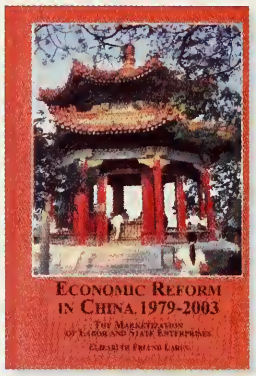

To conduct 40 interviews with members of the 6th Marine Division, Lacey had to take time off from her job. She is a history teacher at Brooke Point High School in Stafford County, Va., where she has lived with her husband and three children since 2003.

She asked the same question in each interview: "Thinking back to 1945, knowing what you now know, what advice would you give those men?" The Marines unanimously responded, "Stay off the skyline." In other words: Do not stand out, stay low and be smart.

In addition to being an author and a teacher, Lacey also is the U.S. representative for the Battle of Okinawa Museum and a volunteer with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. She wrote this book while her husband was stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lacey hopes that her book serves two purposes. First, she would like for readers to gain knowledge of the Battle of Okinawa, which many consider the forgotten battle of World War II. But more important, Lacey wants to encourage people to remember the young Americans who sacrifice so much in order that others may have their freedom.

*– Marie N. Purkert '07*




## Research into reform

If a nation were to provide its workers with social security, health care and housing for decades and then suddenly stop, what would happen? That country would probably experience unrest. China's attempt to avoid such a problem is at the center of **Elizabeth Larus**' new book, *Economic Reform in China: 1979-2003.*

An associate professor of political science at UMW, Larus has extensively researched the politics of numerous Asian nations. Many of her experiences have taken her far from the classroom. From serving as the president of the Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies to living in Asia for three years, Larus has studied other countries through many different lenses.

Her new book, which explores the relationship between state-owned enterprises in China and the Chinese worker, is based on both archival and field research. Larus spent three years in Asia conducting field work and experiencing firsthand the developing politics of the region. Larus' experience is not lost on others in her field, such as Elizabeth Van Wie Davis of the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. "This work gives a human quality to the realities of economic reform," Wie wrote. *Economic Reform in China: 1979-2003* "provides a clear, yet intricate understanding of the issues. It is rare to find such a cogent and clear explanation of the process of China's rapid economic growth."

Larus' book, published in 2005 by the Edwin Mellen Press, should be a boon to anyone looking to understand the intricate and often contentious relationship between the government and the worker.

*– Elise M. Tobin '06*

## Blossoming relationship

**Genine Lentine '84** found a soul mate in Stanley Kunitz. In 2000, a friendship between Lentine – gardener, poet and former UMW instructor – and the national poet laureate took root over soil and stanza, praying mantis and metaphor.

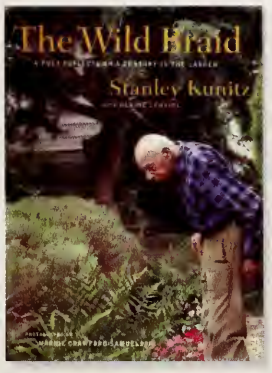
Lentine became Kunitz's literary assistant. Kunitz became Lentine's garden companion. *The Wild Braid*, published in 2005 by Norton, grew out of conversations that took place between the friends in Kunitz's Provincetown, Mass., garden.

"I wanted it to feel like it would if someone was to come to the garden gate, and Stanley invited them in," said Lentine, who earned a master of science degree in theoretical linguistics from Georgetown University three years after receiving her undergraduate degree in English. In 1989, she returned to Mary Washington to teach.

But the garden called, and Lentine left the classroom to open a small gardening shop in Fredericksburg. She also co-founded an organic farm coalition. When customers left her store with gloves or seeds or shears, she tucked original poems in their parcels. If visitors asked for the poems – printed with wood cuts of dragon flies, flowers and plants – they might also get the gift of a fragrant rose or leaf from Lentine's garden.

Seasons changed, and Lentine set out for the creative life in Provincetown, Mass. While working at the Fine Arts Work Center there, which Kunitz co-founded, she met the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet who spends his summers in the shore town. For Lentine, summer visits in Kunitz's garden led to winter in New York City as his literary assistant, the job Lentine still holds.

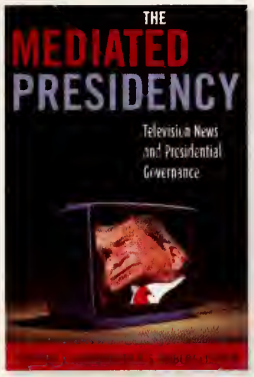
Lentine knew of Kunitz the poet before she met Kunitz the gardener. He served two years as consultant in poetry to the Library of Congress, he was designated State Poet of New York, he is a Chancellor Emeritus of The Academy of American Poets, and in 2000 he was named United States Poet Laureate. A founder of the Poets House in New York City, he taught for many years in the graduate writing program at Columbia University.




*The Wild Braid*, with photos by Marnie Crawford Samuelson, was released last summer, in time for Kunitz's 100th birthday.

"It is just a huge pleasure and gift to work with him," Lentine said of her years with Kunitz. "And it has been such an adventure."

*– Neva S. Trenis*




## Politics and prose

**Stephen Farnsworth**, journalist and associate professor of political science, is no stranger to seeing his name in print. Farnsworth's work has taken him from the District of Columbia to the Republic of Georgia, and most recently to the classroom lecterns of the University of Mary Washington. Farnsworth's interest in media has persisted throughout his academic career, and his latest book, *The Mediated Presidency: Television News and Presidential Governance*, is a testament to his passion for politics and press.

Through content analysis of more than 100,000 news stories gathered from the past 25 years, the book chronicles the interaction between media coverage and the presidencies of such leaders as Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton and G.W. Bush. Farnsworth and coauthor S. Robert Lichter, president of the Center for Media and Public Affairs, cover a variety of media forms ranging from network news to print. The book, published by Rowman & Littlefield, also looks forward to other increasingly popular media outlets and postulates which mediums will cover the news of the future.

*The Mediated Presidency* has garnered much praise from the academic community. Diana Owen, associate professor of political science at Georgetown University, called it "a serious work written in a lively style."

"This book is a must-read for anyone interested in the presidency or the media," said Thomas E. Patterson, professor of government and the press at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. "For that matter, it's a must-read for anyone who seeks to understand contemporary American politics."

Released in 2005, this book would be an excellent read paired with some of Farnsworth's other publications, including his 2002 book, *The Nightly News Nightmare*.

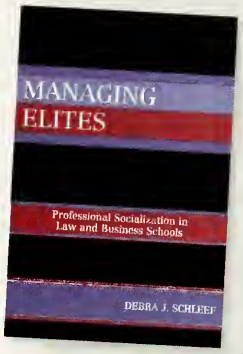
*– Elise M. Tobin '06*

*If you know of other recently published books that have a Mary Washington connection, please contact Anna Billingsley (abilling@umw.edu or 540/654-1686).*

## Law class

The dedication to **Debra Schleef**'s new book reads "To Edith Rosenthal Schleef: Who was right of course – I would have made a terrible lawyer."

Schleef, UMW associate professor of sociology, followed her grandmother's advice and did not study law. Instead, she earned a doctorate in sociology from Northwestern University and explored such varied topics as Latinos in the South and occupational socialization.




However, Schleef always maintained an interest in the law. She currently holds a membership in the Law and Society Association. She has served as a reviewer for *Law and Social Inquiry*. And her latest book, *Managing Elites: Professional Socialization in Law and Business Schools*, is a large-scale investigation into the field.

In the book, Schleef uses 79 interviews with students in business and law schools to shed light on the often overlooked field of elites and how people come to choose such an education. Schleef finds that those employed by prominent banks and law firms don't adhere to all of the ideology associated with elitism. Indeed, contention is often a main component of the socialization process.

Ira Silver, assistant professor of sociology at Framingham College, wrote that Schleef's book "has the promise of becoming a major contribution to our understanding of social reproduction processes, and from a vantage point that is indeed vastly understudied: elites."

Though she may not have made a career of law, Schleef still found a way to make her contribution to the study of it.

*– Elise M. Tobin '06*

*"This is the pinnacle of service to the people of the Commonwealth, and you don't pass up that opportunity."*

– Bill Leighty '77 on being asked to serve another term as the Virginia governor's chief of staff

( c ) 2006, Washington Post photo by James A. Parcell

## School of Fish

### *Alumna comes full circle*

Like the latest celebrity baby or a set of octuplets, the birth of **Erin Fish '04, M.Ed. '05**, was a media event. As the first baby born in her area in 1982, Fish, pictured above, began her life swimming in newspaper coverage. Then, two dozen New Year's Eve celebrations later, she found herself garnering front-page coverage yet again. Earlier this year, *The Washington Post* featured New Year's babies in a "where-are-they-now" article.

According to *The Post*, Fish sat in Ms. Anderson's kindergarten class dreaming of becoming an astronaut. In high school, however, Fish found herself lured to a different kind of work. While serving as a member of the Key Club, she enjoyed volunteering as a tutor to elementary school students. "I think I knew my whole life that I was good at working with kids, and that I could possibly be a teacher," Fish told *The Post*.

The article concludes by noting that after Fish's graduation from Mary Washington, she returned to the incubator of her childhood dreams. She is now at the same school she attended, Enterprise Elementary in Woodbridge, Va. In fact, she teaches 24 second-graders right down the hall from Ms. Anderson, who can be found teaching kindergartners in the same room Erin was in nearly 20 years ago.

*– Elise M. Tobin '06*

## Same job, different boss

When the time came for newly elected Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine to choose his chief of staff, he looked no farther than his own office. Experienced government veteran **Bill Leighty '77** will once again serve as the governor's right hand man, continuing a role he held under Gov. Mark Warner.

Leighty, 52, has served the Commonwealth under both Democratic and Republican administrations for 25 years. He has taken leadership roles in a variety of projects, from development of the Virginia Railway Express commuter train to director of the Virginia Retirement System.

Michaele L. White

*Bill Leighty, right, chats with Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine before Kaine delivered a response to the State of the Union address.*

Newspapers throughout the region, from *The Roanoke Times* to *The Washington Post*, documented Kaine's November 2005 decision to retain Leighty. During his tenure as chief of staff to Warner, *Governing Magazine* named Virginia the "best managed" state in the nation.

Leighty, who has a degree in economics from Mary Washington, told *The Roanoke Times*, "For those that know me and what I've dedicated my life to, this is the pinnacle of service to the people of the Commonwealth, and you don't pass up that opportunity."

Leighty is married to **Martha Kearns Leighty '75**, a member of the UMW Board of Visitors.

*– Elise M. Tobin '06*

## Elder Stateswoman

Seniority has its perks. **Ruby Lee Norris '36** was selected as an at-large delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging.

Robert A. Martin

Norris turned 90 the day after the conference, which was held in Washington, D.C., in December. She participated in seminars, voted on resolutions and learned about new technology, such as how to "blog." With a theme of "The Booming Dynamics of Aging: From Awareness to Action," the conference explored a myriad of topics from Medicare to mobility.

The 2005 conference was the fifth. Delegates were selected because of their "experience, wisdom and energy."

Norris, who lives in Topping, Va., and distinguished herself during a 37-year career as an educator, stays active in her retirement. She engages in her passion for poetry writing, and she serves as a columnist and feature writer for two gardening magazines. She also takes many of the photographs that accompany her articles. She is active in her community and remains loyal to her alma mater. A former member of the Board of Visitors, she now serves on the Mary Washington Alumni Board and the Mary Washington Foundation Board.

## Degree of Fame

**Phillip "Phil" DesRochers '98** received an ovation as he picked up his master's degree diploma at the University of Central Florida. No, it was not that he had overcome extraordinary odds or achieved an unparalleled academic record; it was simply that he happened to be the 40-year-old school's 150,000th graduate. To mark the milestone, the university treated DesRochers like a VIP, giving him lifetime membership in the UCF alumni association and a glass frame for his diploma.

In addition, he got a big write-up in the *Orlando Sentinel*. "I'm very honored and flattered that they chose me," DesRochers told the newspaper. The hospitality-and-tourism-management graduate pursued his degree while working full time at Walt Disney World. A Connecticut native, DesRochers earned his Mary Washington degree in Spanish history and culture.

AUTUMN CRUZ/The Orlando Sentinel

He hopes that his latest degree will advance his career at Disney, where he was selected for the theme park's management internship program.

*– Marie N. Purkert '07*

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*Other alumni achievements:*

**Judy B. Warme '68**, principal of Woodbridge (Va.) Middle School was nominated for the Distinguished Educational Leadership Award and Principal of the Year. In addition, under her leadership, Woodbridge Middle has received its third School of Excellence award.

**Rebecca Griffith '03** of Alexandria, Va., will spend a year as a WorldTeach volunteer in Ecuador. She will teach English to adult students.

## Reconnect with Mary Washington!

Join us for the following regional alumni events. Guest speaker at each one will be Rosemary Barra, UMW's vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, who will talk about how new faculty and student initiatives are enhancing academic excellence at Mary Washington.

**Sunday, April 9, 2006**: Northern Neck Alumni Reception at the Tides Inn, Irvington, Va.

**Tuesday, April 11, 2006**: Washington, DC/Metro Alumni Reception at the Hilton Old Town Alexandria.

For more information, or to make your reservation for either event, visit www.umw.edu/alumni and click on "Events," or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 540/654-1011. Remember to check www.umw.edu/alumni for information on upcoming Mary Washington alumni events both on campus and in your area.

## ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE UMW ALUMNI ONLINE COMMUNITY?

If you are, then you already know the benefits of this cutting-edge service, available exclusively to Mary Washington alumni! Members get the latest UMW news delivered straight to their inbox via the quarterly Alumni E-Newsletter, as well as special "breaking news" e-mail updates. They are also able to search the online alumni directory, post to message boards, sign up for a permanent email forwarding address, and enjoy expedited online event registration. And new features are continually being added. Best of all, membership is FREE. To register today, visit www.umw.edu/alumni, click on the link for "Alumni Online Community" and follow the instructions to create your user ID and password. Already registered, but can't remember your log-in information? E-mail ssolomon@umw.edu or call 540/654-1011 to obtain your user ID and password.

FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF THE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

TO: All Alumni

FROM: Monecia Helton Taylor '81

As you read this, the spring semester will be well under way and full of activity for the Alumni Association and the University. Planning for the University's Centennial in 2007-08 continues, and we await the arrival of a new university president.

In January, Washington, D.C.-area alumni met with current Mary Washington students to share information on careers, job searches, internships, and more at the annual Student-Alumni Career Networking Reception in Arlington. This spring, regional events for alumni will take place in Fredericksburg, Richmond, Alexandria, Baltimore, Norfolk, Irvington and Nashville. This page includes additional information on those events; be sure to also check our Web site at www.umw.edu/alumni.

The Alumni Association's Board of Directors will also be busy this spring, with programs ranging from alumni awards to developing a slate of nominees for next year's board. At its October meeting, the board welcomed guest speaker Stephen Farnsworth, associate professor of political science, who spoke on Virginia's gubernatorial election. The December meeting was canceled due to weather conditions, and February's meeting featured guest speakers William B. Crawley Jr. and Carter Hudgins, co-chairs of the University's Centennial Celebration steering committee.

Thanks to all of you who responded to Harris Connect's questionnaire in conjunction with the production of a new alumni directory. The directory should be on its way to you this spring. This project enables us to update contact and biographic information on our alumni. One exciting result is the fact that we can now reach more than 50 percent of our alumni by e-mail. Those of you who receive our quarterly e-newsletter and the occasional breaking news alerts from campus know that this is an excellent means of staying informed about and in touch with your alma mater.

I extend a heartfelt invitation to all of you celebrating class reunions to come back to Mary Washington for the weekend of June 2-4. You'll be energized by the beauty and vitality of the campus, and by the connection to all the alumni who return. I look forward to welcoming you back home!

2006 REUNION weekend

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

SAVE THE DATE!

**Attention classes ending in "1" and "6":**

Mark your calendars, and save the weekend of June 2-4 for Reunion Weekend! Watch for registration material in your mailbox and online in April. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations (540/654-1011) for details. Come back to Fredericksburg for a weekend to see familiar sights and exciting changes.

## Where in the world are Mary Washington alums?

Several UMW employees attended a Council for Advancement and Support of Education conference in Nashville earlier this year. There were more than 1,100 registrants. Imagine their surprise when one of the registrants turned out to be **Angela Mills '01** (left). Angela works in development at the University of Tennessee. Her development skills had been nurtured during her undergraduate days, when she served as a Phonathon caller. During one of the conference sessions, she recognized **Lee Ann Reaser '98** (right), UMW's director of annual giving.

## 1943

Lee Hall Archer
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Johnson City, TN 37604
huntenlee@charter.net

**Beatrice Draper Atkinson** completed a round-the-world, 94-day cruise last April, one of 700 who took the trip on the *Queen Elizabeth* and the new *Queen Mary*. With 30 ports of call, Bea enjoyed seeing sites she had never seen before – the Arabian Peninsula, the Suez Canal, the Philippines and Japan.

**Ann Middleton Kelly** sold her house after her husband's death in 1993 and bought a little cottage, which suits her well. She remains active in her garden club, plays bridge and volunteers at a museum in Aberdeen, Md. She also serves meals to the homeless or those who can't buy their own groceries. (Her Mary Washington home economics degree is coming in handy!) Ann and **Jane Edmunds Ford '47** spent several days in Ocean City, Md., this summer. Ann wrote, "Seems like yesterday I would join **Jean Boyle**, **Carolyn Pittman**, **Frances Wills**, **Glade Burnett '42** and **Ruth Spadler '42** for the memorable 'dinner hour.' Aren't we glad we don't have to walk from our dorm for our supper now?"

Cheers for **Jewel Spencer Marvin**, who sent me a copy of the Fredericksburg *Free Lance-Star*, dated Oct. 18, 1942. The headline blares: "City Recovering From Flood Catastrophe." The Rappahannock River had crested 45 feet above normal level, flooding the town and causing extensive damage. Memory Moment: Mary Washington was under quarantine; we were without water or electricity, and had to line up to take those big typhoid shots.

The newspaper quoted Dr. Combs as saying, "There is plenty of food on hand, but no way of cooking it." He added, "The diet at present consists of coffee, crackers, fruit juice and soft drinks." The water shortage also created a serious sanitation problem. Remember the bucket brigade from the indoor pool to the dorms, so we could occasionally flush? Remember the rescue squad bringing 90 girls from Cornell Hall up the hill by the squad boat and a canoe? And remember our horseback riders who volunteered to go into town to direct traffic on their horses? **Flora Copenhaver Scott** was one of those traffic cops. What an ordeal, but we survived – all 1,140 of us!

## 1945

Frances Watts Barker
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Parksley, VA 23421
jbarker@intercom.net

Hello classmates! Thank you for the response to the reminder for class news from the Alumni Office. This news reminds us of our ties with each other and with Mary Washington.

Although **Provi Keelan Piovanetti** had planned to attend our 60th reunion, she was unable to be there because of the death of her husband, Simon, after a long illness. We send sympathy to Provi and her family. Her grandchildren — Alfonso (a law student), Juliana (a psychology major in college) and Fernando (a high school student and violinist) — are a great source of comfort and pride to Provi. She intends to make it to the next reunion.

***Beatrice Draper Atkinson '43 completed a round-the-world, 94-day cruise that took her to 30 ports of call.***

**Hilda Crisman Pendleton** wrote that she and Willard are well but have slowed down somewhat. They visit relatives in Virginia several times a year and plan to take a Caribbean trip. The activities of their children and grandchildren add interest to their lives. Hilda keeps in touch with three very special Mary Washington friends via e-mail.

**Betty Walsh** does volunteer work for St. Helena Episcopal Church in Beaufort, S.C., and on the island where she lives. She leaves the island only in case of mandatory evacuation during the hurricane season, which she has not had to do for several years. Betty's voluntary work includes preparing for her church's annual bazaar.

**Chris Brauer Krausse** plans bus trips for her church and friends. Chris and Spott remain active; their most recent adventure was to the "Grand Canyon" of Pennsylvania, sightseeing along the way. Most interesting was a visit to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Once again, **Anne Dawideit Dickinson** met **Lois French Lockhart** and **Bets Roberts Johnson** and husbands for lunch in Orange, Va. Isn't it great that these three couples have been able to do this on a regular basis for so many years? Anne's husband, DuVal, recuperated nicely from a hip replacement. Anne's most exciting news is that there is a new addition to the Dickinson family – a great-grandson!

Traveling rates high among the interests of our classmates. **Lillian King Everett** stays on the road as long as she is able. Therapy and aqua-aerobics are strengthening her legs. Our 60th reunion in Fredericksburg was the highlight of Lillian's 2005 travels. She also visits the sick and keeps quite busy with church business.

After many years, **Kitty Hale Hudson** and I have been in touch. Kitty lives in Stuart, Va. When her pharmacist husband retired, they enjoyed a great cruise to Alaska. After college, Kitty took a home course in interior design from Loyola University. Despite a painful foot problem, Kitty does volunteer work for her local hospice. Although she formerly was in touch with many Mary Washington friends, her only Mary Washington correspondence now is with **Betty Sharp Seelinger**.

Big changes have occurred in **Jo Moss Shulke**'s life. She moved from her home of 48 years to a retirement community in Hurst, Texas. Jo wrote that she misses her neighbors and friends of many years, but she does not miss the yard and home maintenance. She has made new friends and is involved with church activities, bridge games and retirement home outings. Jo added, "Can it be 60 years since we graduated from Mary Washington? Now, it seems strange to see and hear the name University of Mary Washington, but such is progress. Life is good."

**Liz Goffigon Johns** enjoyed a trip to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji with an Eastern Shore friend and a Mary Washington friend, **Sally Jacob '44**. In May, she visited her cousin, **Kathleen Goffigon Huston '44**, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

My apology to **Virginia Ricker Hall** for an error published in the Winter '05 issue of *UMW TODAY*. She retired after 51 years as a Red Cross volunteer, a remarkable record of which she is very proud. Virginia has hung up her traveling shoes to far and wide places and now plans shorter trips. She and her husband now enjoy the San Diego area. She fondly recalls her roommates, **Wilma Clare** and **Mary Rita O'Rourke**.

**Lura Korth Gillis** retired after 32 years of teaching on Guam and in Fairfax, Va. She enjoys living in Florida with her husband, Arthur, and having their daughter's family close by. After a Navy life of 24 years, she is happy to be settled in one location.

**Marjorie "Jerse" Storms Reddoch** and Ruskin live in Tarpon Springs, Fla. They are proud of their three children, 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. To celebrate their 60th anniversary, Jerse and Ruskin toured Ireland for the Dublin St. Patrick's parade and visited Blarney Castle. Jerse asks for your prayers because she is fighting ovarian cancer and taking chemo treatments. So far, reports are good, and she is planning to attend her granddaughter's wedding in Tennessee in April. We applaud her positive outlook and determination. Jerse's roommate, **Betty Cochran Melius**, passed away in October 2005 in South Dakota, her home since 1945. She and Jerse were in each other's weddings.

**June Ellen Minnerly Borden**, who lives in Maryland, regrets that arthritis kept her from attending our 60th reunion. She and Leon are geographically close to four of their seven children, whom they visit regularly. Christmas is exciting when the family, all with varied musical talents, get together. The family chorus sings at church or at a nursing home. The Bordens spend summers in the Adirondacks and travel around the country in their RV, usually in the fall. "Life is still exciting and fun even in our 80s. I do have to admit that when I see myself in a mirror, I wonder who that old lady is!" June Ellen wrote. I think we all can relate to that.

All is well with **Dorothy "Skip" Potts Taylor** and Wally who are active within the retirement community where they live. Treatment for Wally's idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is effective and allowing him to keep up his volunteer schedule. Following a very difficult year for their family, Skip is happy to announce that their daughter, Nancy, is cancer free.

**Grace Bailey Lindner** and Carl are comfortably settled in their new home at Westminster-Canterbury in Richmond. Grace says it is wonderful to be making new friends as well as renewing old friendships with former high school acquaintances. Moving from a home of many years was difficult, stressful and required much planning. However, Grace and Carl handled it well and are enjoying the results.

**Betsy Shamburger Eggleston** is a great source of information for class news. Outstanding among her activities was the celebration of husband Dick's 90th birthday. Planned by their daughter, Sallie Lee, it was held on Flag Day and featured a patriotic theme. Betsy and Dick have attended two family weddings — one in Kentucky and the other in Texas. Last summer, they sailed up the coast of Maine. Betsy reported that **Ann White Leonard**'s husband was very ill, but is recuperating and doing quite well. She also informed us that **Frances Stebbins Shelton**'s husband, who was an invalid for seven years, passed away last October. We extend our sympathy to Frances.

Betsy stays in close touch with **Trudy Kramer Larsen**; in fact, Betsy hired Trudy's son, who lives

## Mary Washington provided love and livelihood

During a recent visit to Mount Kapilas in India, **Suchi Mohanty '00** followed the native tradition: Before climbing the 1,400 steps to the shrine to Lord Shiva at the top, she wished for wealth and happiness. "There's a legend that if you make a wish at the bottom and climb all the way to the top, your wish will come true," Mohanty said after a recent three-week visit with family.

The wealth may not yet have materialized, but Mohanty, 27, has found happiness. And her alma mater was the source of much of it. "Attending Mary Washington has impacted my life in big ways. I met my husband and started my career there – two pretty significant parts of my life," said Mohanty, who lives in Durham, N.C., and works as a reference and instruction librarian at the R.B. House Undergraduate Library at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

The seeds for her job were sown at Simpson Library, where Mohanty worked as a student aide. "When I decided to go to library school [at UNC], it was because of all the positive experiences I had working at Simpson Library. My supervisors there were amazing, and they really encouraged me to follow my interests," Mohanty said. Reference and Humanities Librarian Jack Bales, with whom she worked closely, described her as one the best aides Simpson ever has had.

Now, Mohanty said, "I try to be that kind of mentor to the students I work with – I want them to get as much from student aide work as I did."

When she's not at the UNC library, Mohanty is settling into her new home with her husband, **Ryan Goff '04**, a former financial adviser who's contemplating graduate school. "[Ryan and I] met when we both lived in Bushnell Hall our freshman year," Mohanty said. "He used to cover front desk duty for me once in a while." Later, the two started going to Seacobeck together, and "things just went from there," she said.

Goff, 27, spent a couple of years working and attending school part time. In June 2004, after his graduation, he and Mohanty married in a traditional Indian ceremony in Warwick, R.I., near Mohanty's hometown.

When they head north to visit family, Mohanty and Goff often stop in Fredericksburg for nostalgic visits to Mary Washington – and they had a blast catching up with old friends at Mohanty's five-year reunion last October.

"I miss our beautiful campus," Mohanty said. "UNC is a much larger campus than Mary Wash, and they are different architecturally. Even so, they both have a strong sense of history that lends itself to the atmosphere and personality of each place."

*– Kristen King '04*

*Ryan Goff and Suchi Mohanty*

in Richmond, to do repair work on her home. Trudy and Betsy plan to get together this spring. **Adrienne Herbert Doll '44** took a world cruise and sent Betsy a card from Japan. **Mary Boynton Goodloe**, Betsy's suitemate, lives in Colorado Springs with her husband, Richard Davis.

On a European trip, **Gloria Post Goodsell** and Roger, of Tyler, Texas, visited an Army hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, where injured soldiers are sent from Iraq before returning to the United States. They took phone cards sent by their friends' church in Tyler so the soldiers could make calls home. This was a meaningful and touching experience for Gloria and Roger, who thoroughly enjoyed their European vacation.

Life has not changed much for Jack and me. It seems the older we get, the less time we have, and the years pass too quickly. We are thankful for family, friends and many blessings. I will expect more news before the next deadline.

## 1946

Patricia Mathewson Spring
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springfrnk@aol.com

Thanks, dear classmates, for all your lovely messages. The next big event for us will be our 60th reunion in June. Hope to see all of you there.

In the meantime, news from **Janice Worsley Mayberry** told of a mini-reunion at **Elizabeth Sullivan Vaughan**'s new apartment in Blackstone, Va. **Vivian Wilkerson, Nora Russell Dickens, Mickey Dixon Sullivan, Mim Riggs Gay** and Janice all got together to catch up. Janice had a hip replacement last January, but has undergone therapy and is doing fine now. Her son, who works at the Pentagon, took a two-week trip last April to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Africa. Janice said she did a lot of praying those two weeks and expressed her concern for all mothers who have sons in war zones.

**Ruth Myrick Shuman** reported that she still is in Hilton Head, but in a different location. After 30 years in Philadelphia, she said she loves the South's mild winters. It isn't all paradise, though – hurricanes are always a worry, but Ruth said she tries to be on the West Coast during hurricane season.

**Ora Elena Robinson Bonham** lost Jimmy, her husband of 57 years, last year. We send our sympathy to Ora and her family. She has three children and three grandchildren, all of whom take good care of her.

**Ann Briesmaster Robertson** has talked by phone with **Sue Vick Warren, Elizabeth Stallings Sharpe, Kate James Duval** and Mim Gay. Last summer, she visited with **Marjorie Hatch Ritter** and **Louise Burroughs Ruddick**.

**Anne Wood Hilldrup** and husband Gordon recently celebrated their 59th year of marriage. Anne also is enjoying visits from her great-granddaughter.

**Elizabeth Vaughan Pritchett** and her husband still live on a beautiful tree-lined street in the Dallas area where they moved in 1963. They go to a local fitness center several days a week for yoga, stretching and weight-bearing exercises and spend nearly an hour in the pool for movement. Elizabeth also plays croquet, enjoys lunches and brunches and frequently visits with family and friends. Wow! Is that the good life or what?

Also living the good life is **Elaine "Sally" Heritage Jordan** whose latest adventures include cruises on the Hudson River and to Cape Cod, Bar Harbor and Nova Scotia. In addition to taking trips, she said she enjoys going to concerts and to the theater. Sally plans to attend our reunion and looks forward to seeing everyone.

**Beverly Beadles Jackson** of Richmond sends greetings and best wishes to her classmates. She considers herself blessed to have reached the age of 80 and remain in reasonably good health. Her husband, Barnett, has had a few health problems, but they both are still active. They vacationed in August with their children and grandchildren in Nags Head, N.C. Their oldest son, Jay, who works for the FCC, is talking about retiring in a few years, and that really reminds them of their age!

**Kate Parker Hughes** reported that she is still moving and feeling good at 80. George Jr. is a doctor, Kathy manages three stores, and Susan is an occupational therapist. Kate pursues longtime interests like swimming and art. She has sold some of her paintings and some are displayed at the Ocean View Museum in Norfolk, Va. Kate and husband George will publish a book about the adventures of East Ocean View residents. Kate talks to the following Mary Washington girls: cousin **Stella Vincent Bartron, Jane Everett Tucker, Effie Sanderlin Robertson '45, Aileen Heflin '47, Anne Carvil '47, Rose Morrisette '39** and **Mary Hunninghake '42**.

*Kate Parker Hughes '46 has sold some of her paintings, and some are on display at the Ocean View Museum in Norfolk. Kate and husband George are writing a book about the adventures of East Ocean View residents.*

I received a card from **Carolyn Rohr Huebner** with pictures of a recent dinner party she enjoyed with her former kinesiology teachers and their husbands. There was also a great picture of Carolyn in a big red hat, since she is now a member of the "Red Hat Society." Also, I had a nice chat with **Elizabeth Stallings Sharpe**, who has had some surgery but is doing well now. She has been in touch with **Sue Vick Warren** and her husband.

As for yours truly, I am still moving despite some arthritic problems. I manage to enjoy helping with my twin 18-month-old grandchildren. I'm getting my skis ready, too!

I certainly hope to see everyone in June.

## 1948

Bette Worsham Hawkins Dunford
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I will condense for you a wonderful letter that I received in August from **Mary Blanche "Jo" Webb Worrell**. Jo traveled to Virginia with her suitemates to visit **Angela Grizzard Wyche** several years ago, just before Angela was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. They were a close group, Angela being the one who kept Jo informed about school and Virginia updates, including news about **Lois Saunier Hornsby**'s recording star son, Bruce. So, for nostalgic reasons and because she likes Bruce's band, Jo attended a recent Bruce Hornsby concert near her home in Henderson, Nev. The concert was outside with the temperature around 105 degrees. It brought to Jo's mind a snapshot that she had taken of Bruce's piano, which Lois had donated to Ball Hall. In the photo, Dean Alvey is playing and Lois and **Ashby Griffin Mitchell** are looking over his shoulder. **Nancy Leary** claims credit for giving Mary Blanche the nickname of "Jo" (as in Joe College) because two names were too much to say. The name stuck.

Another touching story from our class was the September obituary of **Katherine "Kitty" Kennedy Clark**, a legendary figure among us. Kitty was an alternate in the Virginia delegation to the Democratic Convention that nominated Adlai Stevenson for president. She met his sister, Elizabeth Ives, who befriended her and included her in the Stevenson inner circle. This led to her lifelong friendship with both Elizabeth and Adlai. Kitty moved to Washington in 1980 and served with AID, the State Department, and the House Committee on Education and Labor. The article further stated that family and friendships from her early days in Abingdon, from college and from her professional life in Washington were especially important to Kitty.

**Betsy Robertson** recently enjoyed the company of her two nieces visiting from Ohio. They had brilliant and warm November weather to explore the local shops, help Betsy set up a new technical apparatus and visit old friends. Betsy sees **Ellen Dyer Davis** at bridge and occasionally spots **Norvell Millner Johnson** in town from Lynchburg, sporting her usual big smile.

Earle and I took a beautiful cruise to the Dalmatian Coast this fall. We sailed out of Venice, a thrill in itself, since we went right past San Marco Square, the Campanile and the whole Renaissance waterfront. I feel so blessed that my feet are still holding up, but I recognize that this is a finite condition.

## 1949

June Davis McCormick
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Our class is further diminished by the loss of another classmate. As previously reported, **Mary Craig Thomas** bravely battled lung cancer, to which she succumbed in September. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her husband, Earl, two daughters, a son and six grandchildren, one of whom is **Leigh Critzer '08**.

Since husband Ben's passing in August, **Harriet Scott "Scotty" Brockenbrough** reported that she has been unbelievably busy on a daily basis. Putting their house in Mechanicsville, Va., on the market brought an immediate sale, for even more than the asking price. Fortunately, the buyer has allowed Harriet to remain until late February when her new residence was to have been completed. Scotty's children have been supportive during this major change in her life.

Meanwhile, back at the farm, **Kate Mayo Schmidt** and Bill spent early October conferring with a builder about the construction of their new house in a nearby small town. Many e-mails were exchanged between Kate and me as her Houston Astros and my St. Louis Cardinals went on to the playoffs and reversed roles for the World Series. Returning to Houston after that disappointment, Kate had cataract surgery and a week of restricted activity. That same week, the Schmidts put their Houston home on the market and it sold in a matter of days, for which they were unprepared. As a result, Kate and Bill had a scant month to move everything to the farm to await the completion of their new home. Obviously, Kate added, they had a lot to do in a short period of time!

Welcome news came from **Anne McCaskill Libis** about the trip she and Claude made in the fall to West Virginia. In early October, **Margaret "Peggy" Elliott Sweeney** arrived from Ilion, N.Y., for a visit with Anne and Claude in Baltimore. As pre-arranged, the three then drove to meet **Frances Houston Layton** and Roland at West Virginia's Blackwater State Park Lodge. Roland and Claude were classmates at Western Maryland College while the three Fabulous Forty-Niners were becoming best friends at Mary Washington. In the course of events, Anne and Claude played Cupid by introducing Roland to Fran, and they took it from there. Now, fast-forward some 50-odd years to the happy reunion of the three classmates from Marye's Hilltop and the two male buddies. Anne said they shared three wonderful days together, hiking, listening to bluegrass music, enjoying the fall scenery, and just getting to know each other even better. Anne said Fran still plays her cello in and around Lewisburg, W.Va. Before dispersing, the old friends also helped celebrate Claude's birthday.

Another meeting of longtime friends took place in Harrisburg, Pa., where **Jeanne Farrington Leslie** and Mike joined **Mary Elwang Sharp** and her daughter, Kathy, at a regional dog show. Kathy was there to show her beautiful Brittany spaniels. While Mary didn't report the results of the judging, she said they all had a wonderful visit.

> ***Sherry Farrington Green '60 has earned two master's degrees and a Ph.D., lived in London, completed a project in Paris, driven the Oregon Trail, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, made it to Base Camp on Mount Everest, survived the tsunami in Indonesia by clinging to a tree, and competes in saber fencing.***

**Charlotte "Chot" Baylis Rexon** reported on the adventures she and husband Fred had last year. In early spring, they were jitterbugging when Chot tripped, fell and ended up with a fractured kneecap and a torn meniscus. Not one to be deterred, Chot recovered nicely, enabling them to travel in June to Vermont, where they attended a wedding and visited with Chot's roommate **Dorothy "Dotty" Booker Pinkham** and Dave for a few lovely days. The Rexons later enjoyed a fabulous cruise around the British Isles. They spent the summer in Ocean City, N.J., with their extended family coming and going. In November, they took another cruise to relax before Fred's knee replacement in December. In summary, Chot said she and Fred had a busy but happy 2005. To top everything off, she said, they fell in love with and bought a precious bichon frisé. Just what these consummate cruisers needed – a dog!

Ever busy with many things, **Anna "Andi" Dulany Lyons** and her rescued golden retriever continue performing community service in Manassas. Andi and Hannah, a certified therapy dog, make regular visits to a nursing home and the local hospital, where Hannah brings pleasure to the sick, the lonely and the apprehensive. In recent months, the therapy group has expanded to include a reading project. It is geared to young children who know how to read but have trouble reading aloud to people. As dogs are totally nonjudgmental, the child learns to read to the dog, which eventually transfers to the classroom situation. While Hannah needed no further training for her role, Andi had to undergo many hours of instruction.

An update on their latest travels came from **Marion "Wendy" Selfe Kelly** and husband George, who had deemed this their last big jaunt. Rather than taking "a slow boat," the Kellys flew in an airplane to China. They also visited Japan. As a pilot in WWII, George had been based for a time in China, so Wendy really had a built-in, knowledgeable guide. The couple also visited Croatia and Slovenia, where Wendy had lived for several years when her first husband was in the service, and where one of their children was born. Then, a chance encounter with a resident of Lumberton, N.C., prompted George to ask about a fellow he remembered as being from that town. As a result, the Kellys traveled to Lumberton last fall to be reunited with George's co-pilot, whom he had not seen in 60 years! Wendy and George were happy to return home to Lynchburg and their apartment in the Westminster-Canterbury retirement complex. Another of our classmates also resides in the same complex. **Esther Reece McVeigh** left Mary Washington after freshman year but has kept her interest in our class and her love for our alma mater. Esther and **Betty Bond Heller Nichols** have been friends for many years, so she's kept up with the news of our changing school and her classmates. Now for the latest news from Betty: She has accepted a new paying job at the ripe old age of whatever! After a lifetime of graciously playing piano for every possible occasion for a wide variety of productions and performers, of smiling through interminable rehearsals, and of readily recalling every melody suggested, whistled or hummed, B.B. has come full circle. Right at her doorstep in Lexington, Betty has been hired as the accomplished accompanist for the V.M.I. Glee Club.

Good news also came from **Barbara Watson Barden** and husband Bob, who had a lovely six-week summer vacation at their cottage in New Hampshire. Bob inherited the cottage, a Barden family retreat for many years, from his father. Daughter Priscilla and her husband bought a place nearby, and the entire family has devoted many hours to refurbishing it. The Bardens' sons, Jeff and Rob, and their families live elsewhere in New Hampshire, but were in and out during their stay. With both cottages on a lovely lake, there's always time after a day's work or play for a swim or peaceful float aboard their catamaran. Back in Lancaster, Barb happily baby-sits Calvin, the newest grandchild and light of her life.

We were delighted to receive an update from **Virginia "Ginnie" Colwell Read**. Ginnie and husband Don returned to Marco Island, Fla., after spending last summer at their Wisconsin home. Ginnie said July was a full, noisy and fun month, shared with their four children and their spouses, 10 grandchildren, assorted nieces, friends and their children. Needing to recuperate and enjoy the wonderful Wisconsin weather, Ginnie and Don stayed at Lake Julia through the end of September. In October, the Reads traveled to Colorado and visited one daughter who lives on a ranch in Loveland with her husband and four horses. They then visited a cousin in Colorado Springs and a friend in Denver. Ginnie and Don also plan a visit to Knoxville, Tenn., where one son and his wife have their medical practices and are the parents of 7-year-old triplets.

Ginnie also reported on the third annual alumni luncheon, which featured President Anderson and **Jeff Rountree '91**, Mary Washington's Vice President for Development. Held at the Registry in Naples, Fla., Ginnie said each year has brought a larger number of attendees and affords an opportunity to get to know other alumni in the area. One special surprise was finding **Betty Lou Shelhorse Rogers** now living nearby in Naples. Ginnie and Don had lunch with Betty Lou and husband Ed and found it delightful to renew old friendships. Ginnie also has been in touch with **Ann White Dobbins** and said Ann seems to be doing well after the death of her husband in April 2004. Ginnie and Ann hoped to get together.

With 10 classmates known to be residing in Florida and others in Gulf Coast areas, we were most concerned about their safety during the horrific hurricanes. In the absence of any further word from those in harm's way, we continue to hope for the best.

## 1950

Dorothy Held Gawley
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Once again I want to thank all of you who supported our Reunion Gift project – the Ridderhof-Martin Gallery. If you did not see your name listed in the *President's Message and Annual Report of Gifts*, it is because your gift was considered restricted. While I am on the subject of class gifts, you may remember that during our 50th reunion we endowed an Arrington Scholarship. The terms of an endowed scholarship specify that only the interest gained on the gift may be spent. Because only the interest accrued on the fund is awarded, the original gift is protected and will never be spent or depleted, and the scholarship endowed in 2000 will forever provide funds for a qualified student who is the child of a Mary Washington faculty or staff member. Three students have received the scholarship, the most recent for the years 2003 through 2005.

Several exciting events occurred in the lives of **Marcy Weatherly Morris** and husband **Juney**. Last July, Juney received a special Navy and Marine Corps medal for his actions of bravery aboard the *USS Braine* in World War II. The other event was the celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary in August. They were joined by friends and family for lunch and a performance of Roger Miller's *Big River* at the Riverside Dinner Theater in Fredericksburg.

**Lucille "Ciel" Schoolcraft Commander** and her husband finally went on their photo safari to South Africa in spring of last year. They were in the bush six hours a day and saw many animals they heretofore had seen only in the zoo. Their Land Rover even was chased by an angry mother elephant that didn't want them near her baby. Ciel said Victoria Falls was incredible.

**Carmen Zeppenfeldt Catoni** suffered a fall last summer that caused a dislocated shoulder. She wrote that she is doing better, but the humidity plays havoc with her arthritis. Her daughter, Anita, and family visited for several weeks, and they took a ferry to the island of Culebra. Anita has

## Alumnus turns love of flying into award-winning business

Nearly five years after the events of 9/11 crippled the aviation industry and shut down competitors, Richmond-based HeloAir is expanding. Last November, the charter helicopter business, founded by **Robert "Whit" Baldwin '85**, received the 2005 Greater Richmond Chamber's annual Impact Award. The award recognized the company's contributions to the Richmond area through its community involvement and economic development initiatives.

"I want to be the premier helicopter business in the Southeast," said Baldwin, who flew solo when he started the business with one airplane in 1992. Today, HeloAir has 11 helicopters and 17 employees in five cities, with a second Richmond location planned for next year. The company remains successful by transporting clients within 200 miles of Richmond and getting them to their destinations faster than any other means.

"I can pick you up at your office in Richmond and have you in downtown Manhattan quicker than if you drove to the airport, flew to New York and drove into Manhattan," he said.

Although the Long Island, N.Y., native has four relatives in the aviation industry, Baldwin planned to be a stockbroker. Hours after starting a post-graduation job in the financial services industry, though, the business administration major quit. He took a position fueling airplanes at Richmond International Airport. After 18 months, he earned his pilot's license and began flying local radio station WRVA's morning and afternoon traffic reporters. By 1991, he was behind both the controls and the microphone. He became somewhat of a local celebrity when he began flying and reporting not only for WRVA, but also the local NBC-TV affiliate.

Today, Baldwin's client list includes NBC-12 (although he no longer handles the daily traffic report), the Virginia Department of Transportation, Dreamworks SKG, LifeNet Organ Transplant and NASCAR. A member of the Screen Actors Guild, Baldwin has had roles in *Hannibal* and *Commander in Chief*, and over the years has transported entertainment stars, politicians and athletes – "everyone short of the president."

Baldwin credits HeloAir's success to his employees, whom he calls the "best in the business." The newlywed encourages employees not to miss their children's activities and allows employees to volunteer once a quarter for a charity of their choice. He also makes monthly company donations to employee-selected charities.

Baldwin donates his time to children's charities, primarily Children's Hospital and a bereavement camp called Comfort Zone Camp. His money goes to cancer charities like Massey Cancer Center in memory of his mother, **Lelia Jett Marsh '46**, who died of cancer when Baldwin was 24.

Baldwin's mother remains a strong influence in his life and was the one who first introduced him to Mary Washington.

"I wouldn't trade my college years for anything," said Baldwin, who played basketball, golf and lacrosse. Mary Washington's athletics taught him "teamwork and camaraderie," he added. Academics taught him "how to learn," which prepared him for the constant demands of running a business.

In addition to everyday transportation needs, HeloAir has assisted in relief efforts for more than 10 natural disasters, including Hurricane Katrina for which its work was recognized by Bell Helicopter, the nation's largest helicopter manufacturer.

No matter what or who Baldwin is transporting, he's passionate about his job. "When I'm driving to work," he explained, "it's like driving to the golf course. I love to fly. I love the risk and reward."

*– Alissa M. Poole*

*Whit Baldwin*

a 17-year-old daughter who is still undecided about college – perhaps Mary Washington? Carmen has other grandchildren attending schools on the mainland. One is at Penn State and another at Savannah College of Arts and Design. Carmen also mentioned that **Alicia de Rivera-Cruz** was hospitalized with pneumonia when she returned from our reunion in June. **Kay Genoveses Bodley** and her husband have recently moved to the Methodist Retirement Home in Seaford, Del., where they have a lovely apartment.

Our class sends condolences to **Rowena Simpson Renn,** who lost her husband, Ed, last summer.

As for my activities in 2005, besides spending time at my Cape Cod home, I have attended two interesting Elderhostels. One was in beautiful Cape May, N.J., and the other in the Hudson River Valley region of New York. Please remember that to keep this column going I need letters and news from you.

## 1951

Roselyn Bell Morris
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Hi everyone. Thanks to all of you who wrote in response to my postcard.

**Gretchen Anderson Coger** wrote that she and husband Bill are still in their house in Richmond after 42 years, and they plan to stay there. Gretchen and Bill do a lot of traveling, especially to Europe. They also have taken a number of cruises, which they love as they are so relaxing. They have three children — Karen, Bill and Chris — each of whom has two children. Gretchen and Bill have granddaughters at Washington and Lee and Sweet Briar. Another granddaughter will attend University of Vermont next year, while three grandchildren are still in high school. Gretchen is in good shape although she has had two knee replacements, cancer of the mouth, and a heart attack. Bill, who retired 10 years ago from his law practice, has been a good nurse. Gretchen spends a lot of time at Children's Hospital, and Bill spends time on the computer. They have a new puppy, which keeps them busy.

**Barbara Dod Whittle** sent wishes from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley for happiness and good health.

**Cynthia Medley England** wrote that she is living in a lovely retirement community in Naples, Fla. As a free-lance writer, she has contributed to many Florida publications, including *The Miami Herald*. She has also had articles published in *The New York Times* and *Defenders of Wildlife* magazine.

Condolences go to the family of **Ann Lawson Hanson**. I received a note from her daughter, Nancy Scheunemann, informing me of her mom's death in September.

Don't forget: Our 55th class reunion will take place June 2-4, 2006. **Sarah Herring Estes** and I, along with **Lorraine Frantz Foulds**, are looking forward to seeing a large crowd. You can't let us down.

## 1952

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As your class agents, we wish you a happy spring and thank you all for the news you have sent.

From Corley:

Rita Brahs Hawkins has remarried after losing her husband of 40 years. Her new name is **Rita Hawkins-Frimodig**. She reported that her life is now full and happy with her new husband. Bob lost his wife of 46 years before meeting Rita. Since their marriage in June 2004, they are making up for lost travel time. They have been to Europe four times and spent eight weeks traveling through northern California. They play golf whenever they can and are having a ball. Rita has seven grandchildren and Bob has two.

**Anne Hart Martin** wrote that she and husband Bill escaped the hot weather in Illinois by spending two weeks in Iceland and then went to an Inuit village on the east coast of Greenland. To anyone visiting Chicago, Anne highly recommends a visit to Frank Gehry's Pritzker Bandshell in Millennium Park.

**Marie "Weege" Attianese Harlow** appears to be happy in her Southport, Conn., home. She keeps busy playing tennis and bridge, and she enjoys her five grandchildren.

My husband, Ernie, and I met up with **Carol Edgerton Cooper** and Charlie in San Francisco last April. Because some of us married Marines, we were all there for the 55th reunion of the 7th Basic Class. Carol and Charlie are proud of their grandson, Trevor, who graduated first in his class at the Naval Academy and is now a Rhodes scholar.

**Marjorie Gibson Blaxill** is now a bronze life master in bridge. She travels to bridge tournaments and enjoys visiting her eight grandchildren.

**Susan Hutcheson Jurgens** also is an avid bridge player; she belongs to several clubs. While she and her husband, John, have done little traveling this past year, they have enjoyed entertaining family and friends at their Gordonsville, Va., home. Susan teaches an adult Sunday school class and is president of the Gordonsville United Methodist Women.

**Rita Morgan Stone** and **Gwen Amory Cummings** journeyed to Fredericksburg to enjoy a performance of the UMW-Community Orchestra in the newly renovated Dodd Auditorium. They reported that the refurbished auditorium is spectacular. Rita wrote that the Alumni Executive Center also merits accolades. There is a lovely photo of **Janet Heilman Meador** and special recognition of our classmate **Frances Bold**, who remembered our alma mater in her estate. Rita said each time she returns to campus, it reminds her of how proud she is to claim Mary Washington as her alma mater. Incidentally, we have news of Janet, who served as our class president. She and Dan are living at Westminster-Canterbury in Charlottesville. They donated steeple bells to the Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville.

**Anne Smith Harmon** reported that she and her husband, Fred, have moved to Callao, Va., on the Northern Neck and would love to hear from classmates.

The mail brings us a voice from the past! We had not heard from **Mimi Evans Lasher** for many years, but she sent a synopsis of her life since she graduated in 1952. After Mary Washington, she went to Penn State, received an M.S. in clinical psychology, worked for several years and then married Donald, a surgeon, from Erie, Pa. Mimi said living on Lake Erie was certainly different from anything she had ever experienced. She learned to ski, ice boat, and make the most of the cold weather. Their summers have been devoted to water sports. Along the way, they had three children – one is a naval architect, another is a physician's assistant and the third is a geneticist. Mimi and Donald, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last April, enjoy visiting their grandchildren in different parts of the country.

From Nancy:

Having talked with several of you, I was able to gather some news from the East Coast. **Nancy Parker Richardson** has moved back to Virginia Beach from the Eastern Shore of Virginia. She planned a trip to Colorado for Thanksgiving and Ohio for Christmas. **Barbara Burgess Goldsten** and Joe hosted a Thanksgiving weekend for 28 family members in their Lexington, Va., home.

**Dorothy Davis Craig** and Daley spend three months each winter in Palm Beach. While there, they attend P.G.A. events. Dottie keeps busy playing tennis and croquet. Daley bought a plane and is now flying high. I guess one is never too old to take up flying! A trip to Scotland is in next year's plans. Happily for the Craigs, their family is located nearby. **Claire Sims Braun** of Denville, N.J., retired dietitian, sells her pen-and-ink art work at shows in her area. Claire rallied after she fell in her garden last summer and broke her back. Fortunately, her family is local and was able to help with her recovery.

**Claire Sindlinger deGroot** spoke with joy of her mother's long life of 100-plus years. Claire and Ward have been dividing their time between New Jersey and Virginia. They took on the challenge of redoing the family homestead in Holmdel, N.J. On their return to Virginia, Claire stopped at the hospital to have her appendix removed! Thanksgiving was in New Jersey with the deGroot family, and Christmas was in Virginia.

***Betty Call Snead Dorset '60, a former reading teacher known for her innovative methods, was invited by the Christian Children's Fund to lecture around the world.***

Hurricane Wilma brought houseguests to **Elizabeth Brice Lendian**'s home in New Smyrna, Fla. Lots of family, kids, dogs and cats arrived for shelter. This past year, Elizabeth and her husband toured the Rocky Mountains and Canadian Mountains by train. Elizabeth raved that the trip was wonderful, but not as exciting or as eventful as their trip to South America where they endured an avalanche. **Pat Line Whalen** has done little traveling since 2000, except to take day trips sponsored by Brookdale Community College. Her family and grandchildren live in New Jersey so holidays are special. She enjoys watching college football and knitting squares which are bound into blankets for the Warm Up America Foundation.

Hammond, La., fared relatively well during last summer's hurricanes, according to **Pat Leech Benton**. Pat works for the Parish Tourist Commission. She also serves as an usher at the Columbia Theatre of Performing Arts. She is still busy restoring old houses, but took time off last fall to travel with friends to Branson, Mo., as part of the Dixieland Tour.

# A retirement plan that keeps on giving

Franklin E. Tillery, a long-standing member of the Heritage Society, is enjoying the benefits of his retirement investments. Those benefits come in the form of UMW students who have been able to further their educational goals.

When he retired 22 years ago, Mr. Tillery knew what he wanted to do with his savings. "My prime objective was to contribute to something to make a difference," he said. He established several scholarships at Mary Washington, as well as at the College of William and Mary and the University of Michigan.

Several of Mr. Tillery's family members are UMW alumni, including his sister Jeanne Tillery Vesey '46, his daughters Sue Tillery '81 and Margaret Tillery Bell '78, and several cousins. According to Sue Tillery, her father considers the scholarship recipients to be his "extra daughters and sons."

He meets recipients at annual campus events and also stays in touch through regular correspondence. "I have kept up with many of my students through Christmas cards and wedding announcements," Mr. Tillery said. "I'm always amazed that they want to talk to an old guy like me!"

To ensure that students continue to receive scholarship benefits, the staff at the UMW Foundation worked with Mr. Tillery to create a charitable gift annuity to fund an endowment for each scholarship. "The annuity provides me with an income for life, and the remainder will carry on this great work even after I'm gone."

*Frank Tillery regularly attends the Heritage Society and Scholarship Donor Recognition Luncheon held on campus each spring. Here, he is with* ***Martha Alley '07****, a recipient of one of the Tillery scholarships in 2003 and 2004.*

Find out how you can join Mr. Tillery as a member of the Heritage Society and provide for UMW students through your estate plan. Contact Jan Clark, Assistant Vice President for Gift Planning for more information.

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

FOUNDATION

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**Let us hear from you!**

**Deadlines for Class Notes submissions:**

| Material received by | Appears in |
|---|---|
| AUGUST 15 | WINTER |
| NOVEMBER 15 | SPRING |
| FEBRUARY 15 | SUMMER |

**Eleanor Michelet Mulbry** and Len wrote that their Saratoga, Calif., home and spacious lush yard continue to give them room to entertain their four sons and families. An early 55th wedding anniversary was planned for February.

**Charlotte Adams Harrell** and husband Bob have moved to Westminster-Canterbury in Virginia Beach. They are enjoying life to the fullest and have lots of time to travel and also entertain their family in the area.

**Ginny Orkney Philbrick** lost her husband, Phil, this year. We send Ginny our condolences and heartfelt sympathy. He stayed alert and busy working until he passed away at age 88. They have nine children and 13 grandchildren scattered across the United States. We remember Ginny fondly as our class valedictorian, and I have treasured memories of Ginny as my roommate in both Cornell and Virginia halls.

**Shirley Bowman Stotts** is on the move. She and husband Vernon traveled to Minnesota for a family reunion. In an effort to downsize, they are selling their home in Queenstown and moving into a new home in Easton, Md. **Suzanne Branner Kessler** lives in Richmond, but she travels frequently to visit grandchildren in Cary and Charlotte, N.C.

**Mary Eleanor "Mimi" Bruce McCombie** and husband Bob have settled in to their waterfront condo in Virginia Beach. Chuck and I have enjoyed their company and the water views several times. Mimi and Bob make frequent visits to their children in Connecticut, New Hampshire and Fredericksburg. They also travel a great deal.

As for Chuck and me, we spend about five months each year in Newport Beach, Calif., avoiding the heat of summer and cold of winter in Williamsburg. Our family has grown to 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of whom live in states other than Virginia. We spread ourselves around for happy visits. However, there never seems to be enough time for the volunteer work and trips.

Let's have a record-breaking column for the summer issue! Remember to send your news to Corley or Nancy. Think reunion in 2007!

## 1953

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Charlotte Benz Villalobos
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From Barbara:

**Joyce Reynolds Hancock** wrote to bring us up to date on her activities since graduation 52 years ago. She worked as a chemist at Johns Hopkins, married, had two fine daughters, taught junior high science for 14 years, and retired in 1980. Since then, Joyce has traveled to Africa and Europe and has been active in Christian work, including being a part of the Gideon Auxiliary. On the medical front, she has had knee cartilage surgery, cataract removal, a few biopsies of non-cancerous lumps, and two angioplasties with stents. Joyce said all the procedures were routine except the last angioplasty during which her heart stopped, allowing her to observe from above the crew working on her body. From that experience, Joyce said, she gained a greater appreciation for life.

From **Vanessa Moncure '78**, we learned that her mother, **Wyvonne Weaver Vance '53**, and her father, Victor, relocated from their home in Monroe, N.C., to Vanessa's home in Fredericksburg. Her dad already was suffering from Parkinson's disease. Shortly after the move, her mother suffered a severe stroke during surgery to remove a kidney. She went into rehab, the goal being to get her home by early 2006. Wyvonne has three grandchildren, the oldest of whom, Webb, is a 2002 graduate of VMI. Katherine, a 2002 graduate of Sweet Briar, married two years ago, and the youngest, Avery, is a senior at Woodberry Forest School in Orange, Va. During the past year, Vanessa has been undergoing treatment at the U.Va. Cancer Center.

A broken hip in January slowed **Betty Crawford Beasley** down for a while. However, Betty wrote that she has recovered beautifully and is walking without a cane. She sold her house and moved to an apartment complex in Fredericksburg's Smith Run, a community for those 55 years and older. Now near her daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons, Betty considers herself very lucky to be living the "super easy life."

Another who has relocated is **Nell McCoy Savopoulos** who proclaims, "timing is everything." After spending many winters in St. Augustine, Fla., Nell and her husband, Mike, decided to downsize drastically and move there in September 2004. During the next year, Nell swore their small living space shrunk more each time it rained. Now, the Savopouloses have adjusted to their laid-back lifestyle and are enjoying the beach, which is just five minutes away. A bonus is having Mary Washington friends within visiting distance. **Peggy Ellis Gill** and her husband, Paul, have a condo nearby; and **Joan Morgen Rountree** and **Hannah Lou McGowan '51** are close enough for lunch and marathon memory sessions. Despite the prediction of terrible hurricanes to come, Nell said she would think about that on some day other than the beautiful one she was experiencing as she wrote this message.

> ***Carol Hamblet Adams '65 has had multiple careers during the last 40 years including authoring two books – My Beautiful Broken Shell: Words of Hope to Refresh the Soul and My Beautiful Sandcastle Moments: New Beginnings of Hope and Healing.***

Continuing with the relocation theme, **Nancy Newhall Hulburt** and husband Harry now winter in North Carolina near their daughter, Jennifer. By spring, Nancy and Harry hope to resume residency on the Cape. Granddaughter Lily Bea is writing her third novel while away at college. **Elizabeth Young Worthington** is still a working artist and teaches a couple of classes a week. She recently sold her house and moved into a condo in Chattanooga. **Gayle Winston Roberts** and husband Page have moved twice in the last two years after 40 years in the same house. They built their retirement home on the south side of their lake, retaining the same address.

Not relocating is **Deigh Renn Simpson**, who continues renovating her charming childhood cottage on the banks of the Appomattox. Recently, Deigh hosted a lawn wedding for a cousin at which she performed the blessing ceremony.

## 1955

Christine Harper Hovis
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Greetings from California! Because our class has so many grandchildren, I decided to share my philosophy concerning grandchildren: Have fun with them and teach them all sorts of embarrassing quotations. It's wonderful payback for your children and keeps them on their toes. Last August, Neil and I celebrated our 50th anniversary with our children and grands by going to the Historic Car Races at Laguna Seca. Well, the guys went to the races and the rest of us kept busy with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Cannery Row and shopping for obnoxious touristy items. Now, on to more news from our class.

**Eleanor Pollack** and a friend took a 10-day tour in Belgium last July. She wrote that she really enjoyed the study tour as well as the lectures. **Ann Strickler Doumas**, who lives just below the Alumni office in Fredericksburg, generously offered her home as a quiet retreat or gathering place for a get-together during our next reunion. Thank you, Ann. She and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary last June, spent most of July in Scotland, and welcomed a fourth grandchild in August. Her children live in California, Arizona and Connecticut. I presume you have accumulated a lot of airline frequent flier miles, Ann.

**Sue Bedell Albee** says she's sorry to have missed our 50th reunion, but she was traveling in Europe at the time. Sue lost her husband to cancer in 1992 and moved to Wellfleet on Cape Cod, where she has settled down to playing bridge and volunteering. A few years later, she lost her daughter to cancer and spent some time in Vermont with her son-in-law and grandchildren. In 2003, she bought a home in Port St. Lucie, Fla. so she could winter in Florida and summer in Cape Cod. While she was at the Cape, she got a phone call from **Jackie Davis Woolfolk**. Jackie lives in Ipswich, Mass., so they met halfway to share lunch and memories.

News of **Polly Stoddard Heim** came from **Sally Hanger Moravitz** (thank you, Sally). Polly and Ken have had a home in Idaho for many years, but recently purchased a home in Tucson, Ariz. They are moving there and embarking on a new phase of their lives. Sounds intriguing!

**Kathleen Clarkson Barlow** says "hi" to all her classmates and friends in other classes. She and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary with a surprise party given by their children

and their gift of a vacation in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. She reminds everyone that the welcome mat is always out in Peterborough, N.H., at any time of the year.

**Jo Jane Williams Van Hook** of Mobile, Ala., was bursting with pride because her oldest granddaughter, Jenny Phillips, was to make her social debut at the Nutcracker Ball in Mobile in December. Jo Jane's suitemate, **Betsy Blackwell Fowler,** and her husband, Jim, planned to be there. Jo Jane and family weathered those devastating storms with only a loss of electricity. However, it pushed them into purchasing a home generator for future use.

**Bee Melillo Shanahan** wrote of a mini-reunion in New York City in early October. Besides Bee, others attending were **Carol Cooper, Mary Margaret Papstein Carter** and **Joan Kleinknecht**. I would have liked to have been a fly on the wall – laughing, talking and dishing, oh my! I talked to Bee in November about the class gift. At our class meeting we decided that we wanted to see if the amphitheater could be refurbished. Bee needs volunteers for the committee to give or raise money for the project. We also would like to create interest at UMW to go forward with these plans. We are starting from scratch once again as the funds raised for our reunion are now in the general fund. I know we can do this, can't we?

**Maryann Whittemore Harman-Walke** wrote that she continues to paint and exhibit but has retired from teaching at Virginia Tech. In November, she visited a good friend in Larkspur, Calif.

**Irene Hughes** retired from her real estate business a few years ago and has been writing mystery novels ever since. She has published two novels and the third will come out this spring.

Lastly and sadly, news that some of you already know: Last August, **Sally Watson Castle** lost her husband. We send our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Sally and her family.

## 1956

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**June Anne Tingler Buie** wrote from California, where she and her husband have lived for nearly 40 years. She and **Audrey Smith, Betty Anne Andrews** and **Rita Schaeffers**, who is now deceased, all transferred our junior year to UNC. Betty Anne is married and lives in Georgia.

**Elizabeth "Boo" Roundtree Duke** is in regular contact with **Betty Winstead Stiff**, and sees **Dean Murphy Gilmore** often, as they live just five minutes apart in Portsmouth, Va. Boo says they all are coming to Reunion Weekend in June. Boo works part time as a bookkeeper for a bakery, plays bridge, bowls, tutors and regularly baby-sits her grandchildren. **Suzie Heap** is enjoying her work with the Master Gardener program in California. She has three daughters and three grandchildren. She enjoys life with her partner, a retired architect, with whom she travels. They went on a river cruise in Russia last summer and spent two weeks in Santa Fe in the fall. They are planning a trip to Istanbul in March. Susie hopes to catch up with **Hermie Gross Fox** and the other California alums to make plans to attend our 50th reunion. **Page Richardson Coulthard** plans to visit her daughter in Orange and be on hand for the reunion, too. **Dixie Moore Kirby** and her husband went to Sweden last May to visit one of her daughters. In October they had a four-day visit with his granddaughters in New York City. I know she will combine a reunion weekend trip with a visit to one of her other daughters.

I see **Mary Chilton Newell '54** in Mathews frequently, and the two of us had lunch last summer in Williamsburg with **Betty Harpine Chilton**. Betty retired from Fairfax Schools and now enjoys working at a Borders bookstore. While in Williamsburg I also visited **Carter Still Sonders '83**, who has a husband and two young sons and works in the development office for Jamestown.

I'm late to the grandparent club, but made up for lost time with the birth last summer of two grandsons. Please write or e-mail; your news is what keeps this column going. See you June 2-4.

## 1958

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After having lived away from Fredericksburg for 41 years, **Charlotte M. Walker** retired in 1999 and moved back to help care for her mother. Charlotte lived at Marye's Heights

# Psychological Study: Mary Washington prodded alumna toward profession

It's challenging enough to teach a college-level course on statistics and research methods. But **Marjorie Sanfilippo Hardy '87** faces the added hurdle of overcoming students' initial perceptions that the class will be, well, not so fun.

So what does she do? "I take a back door approach to get them excited about statistics," said Hardy, an associate professor of psychology at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla. She encourages engaging and real-life research, such as an examination of the impact of the private subconscious on snacking behavior.

"Such a project is ambitious for undergrads," Hardy said. "But they become excited about the data."

She added, "They soon realize that statistics is just a tool." And it can be cool.

Hardy credits her creative approach to teaching to the late Christopher Bill, former Mary Washington psychology professor whom she described as "brilliant"; and Tom Moeller of the UMW psychology department, who served as her undergraduate adviser. "Tom was always there for me," she said, noting that he met with her frequently to discuss her studies and her honors thesis.

"Mary Washington was definitely the best four years of my life," said Hardy, 40. "I knew I wanted to teach at a school like Mary Washington."

Hardy earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Miami (the day before her marriage to husband Scott; she insisted upon adding Dr. to her name before she added Mrs.) and accepted her first teaching position at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte. From there, she went to Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa.

At Eckerd since 2000, Hardy teaches classes ranging from abnormal psychology to a course titled "Quest for Meaning." The latter is a senior capstone course in which students consider philosophical and ethical approaches to such weighty issues as poverty and the environment. "It's designed to get them to open their eyes and make a difference in the world," she said.

Hardy clearly has made a difference to her students. She recently won the prestigious Robert A. Staub Distinguished Teaching Award, Eckerd's equivalent to "teacher of the year."

Hardy is uniquely qualified to address complex social themes. She's conducted extensive nationally publicized research on children's behavior around guns. "The bottom-line finding is that there is very little we can do to change their behavior," she said, referring to the curiosity and impulsive nature of children. "We must supervise, no matter how much we think they may have been taught."

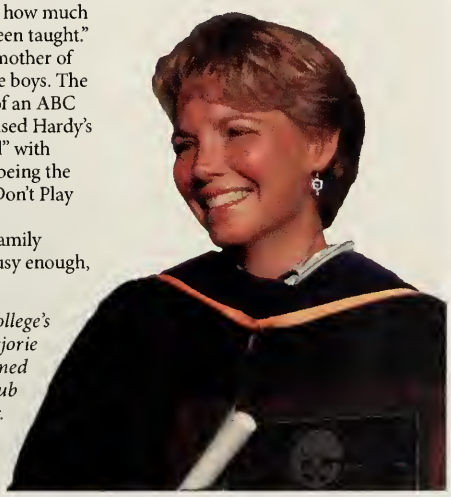
Hardy herself is the mother of two elementary school-age boys. The older, Matthew, was part of an ABC *20/20* episode that showcased Hardy's research. Matthew "played" with guns on the show despite being the poster child for Hardy's "Don't Play With Guns" crusade.

If her academic and family activities don't keep her busy enough, Hardy spends her summers teaching teamwork and leadership skills to corporate executives.

If there's a common theme in Hardy's endeavors, it's that she strives to help people live up to their potential.

"I want to make sure [my students] realize they have a lot to give," Hardy said. During the Staub award presentation, Hardy was praised for her "cheerful positive attitude that . . . inspires students to say, 'She's really nice but hard.'"

*– Melissa Davis Haller*



Casey Paquet

*At Eckerd College's commencement, Marjorie Hardy was named 2004-05 Robert A. Staub Distinguished Teacher.*

apartments, which were purchased a few years ago by the University for use as student apartments. She has now relocated and is working part time at the reception desk at *The Free Lance-Star.* She plays the piano for Sunday school and community programs, and she loves to travel and attend musical programs and concerts.

I received a brief note from **Betty Morin Goble**, who lives in Snellville, Ga., forwarding mail to me from UMW, which was inadvertently included in with hers.

Kay **Martin Britto** went to Spain and Portugal with her husband and two daughters in June and July. During their 12-day trip, they went on a pilgrimage from Oporto, Portugal, to Santiago, Spain. She said it was an interesting experience traveling in an area where she could not speak the language.

**Elinor Runge Vitek** and her husband spend the winter months on their boat in Florida and in the Bahamas. Elinor's 96-year-old mother, along with **Martha Hearn Johnson** and husband Rick, connected with them in Sarasota and had a marvelous time. The Viteks spend their summers on the Patuxent River and on Broomes Island in Maryland. Their son, Brant, is an orthopedist in northern Virginia; their daughter, Vicki, is in Colorado.

**Betty Gould Storm**s and her husband, Bob, enjoyed a six-day trip to London in September. Their son, Robert; his wife, Rose; and their daughter, Bailey, were there at the same time. Robert, who is in research at Duke University Hospital, presented a scientific paper at the Imperial College.

**Kay Ruth McMillian** continues to live in New Mexico. Her husband died more than two years ago and she has been closing their businesses. Her four children are scattered all over and she has seven grandchildren, two of whom are in college. Kay visited with **Jean Anderson Chapman** last year, and they had a great time.

Reminder: we will celebrate our 50th reunion in 2008. Please mark your calendars now for early June of that year.

## 1959

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**Irene Piscopo Rodgers** taught a three-day class in electronic microscopy at UMW last July. Fortunately, we were able to meet for lunch in Fredericksburg. We had a grand three-hour talk and were just hitting our stride when we realized the time; five-year intervals are just too long. In September, if all plans went well, Irene traveled to the Midwest to visit **Ann Watkins Steves** and husband Bob in Dallas and **Nancy Montrastelle Curnutt** in Oklahoma City.

**Jane Tucker Broadbooks** said that although she is only 39 (ha!), she is preparing to attend her 50th high school reunion. Her son, Jon Karl, is the editor of the *Observer Dispatch* in Utica, N.Y. **Julia Coates Littlefield** also had a 50th reunion to celebrate. **Elizabeth Harlow Warren** and her husband, Dick, from Scarsdale, N.Y., came and stayed with them. It was Eliza's first return to Lexington in 20 years. Julia also met with **Sandra Rayder Arendall**, who attended Mary Washington for a year or two and returned to Lexington to make her home.

**Arthur Olds**, husband of the late Eleanor Markham Olds, sends frequent and humorous observations on life. **Ann Brooks Coutsoubinas** sent two postcards from Greece.

Mail from **Barbara Cohn Krebs**, my freshman and sophomore roommate, was a wonderful surprise! Barbara has been teaching high school biology in New Jersey for 38 years. However, she is looking forward to her retirement, which coincides with the end of this school year. A wonderful and unexpected call from **Mary Carolyn Jamison Gwinn** relayed that she and Burt are quite content and busy in Melbourne, Fla. Her mother is well, and they are enjoying babysitting for grandson Mason.

**Marcia Kyes Price** lives in Redlands, Calif. Three of her children also live in California; the other is in Arizona. Marcia's husband, Henry, passed away. We send our sympathy to Marcia and her family.

My constant sorrow for the loss of my mother was happily interrupted by the June marriage of my daughter, Virginia, to Matthew Rogers in New Orleans, La. Virginia and Matt wanted a quiet wedding, so the only attendees were two sets of parents, his sister, and Virginia's best friend. Also, my dear roommate, **Gerry Jenks Winston** and husband Addison drove down from Roanoke. The wedding was held in the courtyard of the Magnolia Mansion, an elegantly restored 1858 house in the Garden District. After a honeymoon in New Orleans, they held a July wedding reception in Virginia Beach. Virginia and Matt have since set up housekeeping in Virginia Beach along with their cats, Moonshine and Maggie.

I hope all is well with all of my fellow classmates, and I look forward to hearing from more of you. I find myself reminiscing about our Mary Washington days. How can we be approaching our 50th reunion?!

## 1960

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Joanne Campbell Close
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Hi classmates. It's time for our next round of news. More of us are surfacing — and with enthusiasm!

**Elizabeth Hill Heaney** is accustomed to moving and reported that she is about to move to her third and "final" location: Charlotte, N.C. Liz's husband, Robert, was in international banking, a career that took them to South Africa, Canada, New Jersey and Delaware over the years. Liz reported that the years spent in South Africa were enchanting and that the years in Canada were too short. They have three children and eight grandchildren who range in age from 9 to 15. Their new home will put them within a day's drive of all their relatives. They continue to be big football fans.

**Mamie Sue Howlett Scott**, who lives in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and **Rhoda Moyer Ruffner** both wrote that they are involved in caring for an elderly parent. Mamie said that she is in touch occasionally with **Corinne Allison**, **Glenn Geddings** and **Joyce Panciera Pippo**. We would love to receive news updates from the three of them.

***Nan Grogan Orrock '65 has served in the Georgia State House of Representatives for nearly 20 years. She heads a national nonpartisan network of women state legislators.***

Rhoda and her husband were planning an adventure in Ecuador and the Galapagos last fall. Rhoda received a surprise phone call from **Nancy Cleaves Blades**, who was heading to Oregon to visit her old roomie, **Sherry Farrington Green**.

**Dana Lee Walker** did not graduate with us. She was married to her husband for 34 years before his death in 1993. Her daughter graduated from Mary Washington in 1984. **Sandy Holt Kellerman** also left Mary Washington early to get married. She received her undergraduate degree in 1976 from the University of Texas, El Paso. After living in Colorado Springs for 35 years, she and her husband recently retired to Hot Springs Village, Ark. She, too, is a parent's caretaker, commuting back and forth to El Paso.

**Carole Faison Williams Rasmussen** retired from Spring House Corp., an international publishing company, in 2000. After the 1989 death of her first husband, Wayne Self Williams, a Marine she met when both were in **Jody Close**'s wedding party, Carole married Royce Rasmussen in 1993. They live in Lansdale, Pa. Carole has two daughters and a son. One daughter, like her mother, is in publishing, developing books for the educational market. She is the mother of three children. Carole's younger daughter, who has two children, earned her Ph.D. at Yale, then taught at Villanova and Penn. Carole's son is CEO of his own systems design business.

**Sallie Duehring** has lived in Centerville, Va., ever since she started work at the U.Va. medical school and the hospital labs. She took early retirement in 1991 and has spent a long time "undoing" her parents' home in Maryland.

**Sherry Farrington Green**'s life could take up a whole newsletter: married, four children, eight grandchildren, a master's degree in special education, a Ph.D. from Columbia, widow, relocation to London, a second master's degree and a project in Paris before returning to the States, where she drove the Oregon Trail and settled in Portland, Ore. But there's more: Sherry also has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, made it to base camp on Mount Everest, and is a competitive saber fencer. Finally, in December 2004, she survived the tsunami in Indonesia by clinging to a tree. Whew!

**Betty Call Snead Dorset** relayed news of her recent move to Orlando from Richmond. Right after our graduation, Betty married her high school sweetheart, David. He then went to Yale and to U.Va. law school. They returned to Richmond, where David joined a law firm and Betty taught reading at Collegiate School. The Christian Children's Fund heard of her exciting and innovative teaching methods, and she was invited to lecture around the world on how to teach reading to Christian children. Betty and David had two children; their son passed away in 1995, and their daughter became a physician and married a physician.

Betty has stayed in close touch with **Grace Marie Fisher** through the years.

**Margie Saunders Howell** studied nursing at U.Va., then she taught psychiatric nursing at U.Va., the

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www.umw.edu/gift

American University of Beirut (when her husband served with the Foreign Service as a diplomat in Lebanon) and at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. In addition, Margie has practiced psychiatric nursing at a community mental health center. She and her husband had many tours of duty in the Middle East during very turbulent times. They "retired" to Charlottesville in 1992, where her husband, Nat, is a research professor. Margie is active in her church and serves as co-class agent with **Elaine Smith Venn** for her U.Va. school of nursing class.

**Gretchen Squires Best** sent a note from Cary, N.C., where she has lived for more than 20 years. She met her husband, Graham, during her junior year at Mary Washington, when he was a Colgate student and arrived on campus with buddies to visit her roommate, **Nancy Seward Howard**. Married soon after graduation, Gretchen and Graham have just celebrated their 45th anniversary. They have four children who are all married to great spouses and have provided them with 11 awesome grandchildren. Graham is an avid golfer, and Gretchen continues to enjoy watercolor painting. They have spent the last few years involved in building a new Presbyterian church in their growing community.

**Anne Angel McMarlin** and her husband, Robert, live in Murrysville, Pa. She has retired from teaching, but still tutors children in elementary school. She co-chairs the Connections program that brings "senior" volunteers into schools. She sews, plays tennis, gardens, "plays at bridge," travels with her husband, and takes yoga and exercise classes. She has a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

**Miriam Goebel Rappolt** has lived mostly in Hawaii, but she and her husband, Kenneth, exchange houses annually with families in France. She has two daughters from her first marriage and by now should have her first grandchild. Miriam earned a master's degree in French literature in 2002, has taught journalism and creative writing, and published a couple of books. She is currently free-lancing as an editor of art books. She is contemplating pursuing another advanced degree in creative writing at the University of Hawaii.

**Grace Marie Fisher**, a native Floridian, married soon after graduation, lived in Paris for awhile, then returned to Cleveland, Ohio, where she had two children. Divorced some years ago, Grace Marie married Joseph Champ and resides in Cleveland and West Palm Beach, Fla. Now retired, Grace Marie and Joe are busy with their many interests and social engagements.

**Anne Morton Rawls**' degree was in conjunction with the Medical College of Virginia. She worked in clinical pathology and surgical research, as well as a lab supervisor. She became a full-time mom when her children arrived, but she volunteered in various hospitals and served on many boards. For the last 11 years, she has been "riding ambulances" as a paramedic and says she will stay until her aching bones tell her otherwise. She still plays bridge, teaches her grandchildren tennis, reads and paints. Anne and her husband, John, enjoy travel and have been to Russia, the Baltic countries, eastern Europe, Scotland and Ireland. Greece and the Pyramids are on the horizon. They also have traveled extensively in the United States.

**Bayla Goldberg Manis** has lived in Memphis all her married life. She and her husband, Arnold, had two daughters. Jennifer died at 19 of a muscular disease and required Bayla's full-time care during her lifetime. Their other daughter, Terri, has provided two beautiful granddaughters, Jodie and Brittany. Bayla exercises nearly every day and does some volunteer work, although that has slacked off since her husband retired about a year ago.

**Sydney Colson Chichester** wrote that she has just about finished feathering her new nest just outside Fredericksburg. She is considering renting a second home in Vero Beach, Fla., to be near her daughter, who has received a second undergraduate degree and taken a new job there. Syd, who taught for 30 years, has been a volunteer for Lab Rescue, which takes in stray Labrador retrievers, evaluates them, takes care of them and finds new homes for them. At the moment, Syd has only two Labs of her own. In addition to her work with dogs, she has sponsored boys' athletic teams, established a student scholarship and tutored at-risk students. Last spring, Syd was honored by Virginia Gov. Mark Warner for her volunteer efforts.

**Pat Garvin Dyke** has also been a parent caregiver. After 30 years in Midlothian, Va., she and her husband moved to the Atlanta area last May, where both of their children live. They have no grandchildren, but two grand dogs and a grand kitty that are always happy to see them.

***Annette M. "Anya" Monsour '72 is currently serving at the American Embassy in Riyadh. Since graduation, she has been a member of the Foreign Service and has had assignments in Moscow, Mexico City, Bonn and Washington.***

As for me, we drove last summer from Colorado to Chicago, Ill., and Las Vegas, Nev., for consecutive high school graduations of our oldest grandchildren. We took our grandson, the Chicago graduate, with us to Las Vegas for his twin sister's graduation. Then we settled into our summer home, our trailer, in a beautiful RV park outside Durango, Colo., for our sixth summer. In September, we learned that the park had been sold and would no longer have seasonal rates, so we decided to buy a site in an RV park in Show Low, Ariz., only three hours from our home in Mesa. Our e-mail won't change, and our Mesa snail-mail address above will get to me. This June, we will be taking grandchild No. 6 on her "only-child" RV trip through the national parks of the West, a tradition we have extended to each of our grandchildren. We still enjoy round dancing and spending time with our round dancer friends and our foursquare church family.

**Joanne "Jody" Campbell Close** wrote that she did indeed graduate, but her Mary Washington diploma reads 1966. She said, "Who knew that when, during freshman year, we moaned it would take 10 years to get out of there, it really did for me?" Jody said she clings to her original class, no matter what, and claims the class of '60 to any who ask. After working for two years at Mary Washington as an admission counselor under the late Ray Merchent, Jody earned her master's degree from Miami University (Ohio) and worked for the Army in Korea as an education counselor and as a counselor for women on marital, education and work issues. After returning to the States, Jody transferred to the Army Corps of Engineers as an EEO Officer. There she counseled and advised staff and employees, and she processed complaints and investigations. After divorcing in 1983, Jody lived and worked in Germany for five years, during which time she traveled throughout Europe, Greece, Turkey and Egypt. Her oldest son is a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps and her youngest son is a lieutenant colonel in the Marines. Her daughter lives in Seattle. Jody has a grand total of eight grandchildren. She feels blessed with her good fortune, and she said that things are even better now that she is back in touch with all of you.

## 1964

Elizabeth Jennings Peterson
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**Judy Finger Bradley** passed away last June. A memorial service was held in July. Judy was a great person and fine mother, grandmother and wife. We extend our condolences to her family.

**Fran Heisler Way** and husband Warren enjoyed a music conference in the mountains of North Carolina at Montreat, a Presbyterian Conference Center, in August. Lovely weather and good fellowship were part of the activities. **Cathy Puskas** continues to keep Yale New Haven Health Services computers purring with the great software that she produces.

Mel and I traveled to Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and Hong Kong in April of 2005. The cherry blossoms in Osaka and Kyoto were at their peak, and the children in Vietnam at the Children of Peace orphanage were thankful for dolls and a new clinic provided by Kiwanis International.

## 1965

Phyllis Cavedo Weisser
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I continue to love being Class Agent! It has given me a wonderful opportunity to connect with old friends. **Sue Wooldridge Rosser** and I have gotten together several times during her

visits to Atlanta to see her son, Reid. The first time, we met at a restaurant where I told the hostess I would be waiting for a friend. She asked what the friend looked like and I told her I had no idea since I hadn't seen her in 42 years! Neither of us had changed a bit, so I recognized her as she walked in the door!

In September, **Penny Partridge Booth** hosted a mini-reunion at her beautiful home in Holly Springs, N.C. Unlike Mary Washington days, the math majors outnumbered the rest. Penny, **Martha Firebaugh Hurst**, **Patty Boyette Taavoste**, **Murray Roberts Mux**, **Janet Hess Bello** and I had a wonderful weekend reminiscing, eating well, and exploring a wonderful craft village. Penny introduced us all to the game of sudoku – fun even for the one English major! Speaking of that English major, Murray has two sons, two stepchildren and eight grandchildren. She and Victor live in San Antonio, Texas. She is still as petite as she was in college, but we love her anyway! Martha and husband Gene have been married for 40 years. They have three children and five grandchildren. Martha has worked as a math teacher and computer programmer, and she now helps out in the family business. She spends her free time gardening, reading and exercising her body and brain!

**Carol Hamblet Adams** has had multiple careers during the last 40 years including authoring two books: *My Beautiful Broken Shell: Words of Hope to Refresh the Soul* and *My Beautiful Sandcastle Moments: New Beginnings of Hope and Healing*. She has also been a motivational speaker, hosted her own cable television show, and been a funeral planner. Carol is currently a member of the U.S. Masters Swimming organization and competes in meets. She and Steve have been married 35 years; they have two sons, a daughter and one grandson. They moved to Brewster on Cape Cod in the summer of 2005. **Barbara "Bobbie" Hamblet Wilkinson** and husband Tom live in Hamilton, Va., and have three daughters. Bobbie is a writer, artist and events coordinator. She has published essays in national magazines, newspapers and anthologies. She also has edited and illustrated several books, including the original edition of her sister's first book.

**Mary Sale Alligood** lives in Midlothian, Va., with husband Fred, but since they have both retired, they also spend time at their home on the Pamilco River in North Carolina. They have four grandchildren and enjoy travel and spending time with them. **Evie King Cox** and husband Herb celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary last August. They have two sons and four grandchildren. Evie was a stay-at-home mom for a while and then spent many years in the education field, retiring last summer as a middle school principal in Charlotte, N.C. Evie and Herb have retired to the Northern Neck of Virginia, where they are building a home to accommodate them and both of their 87-year-old mothers. **Carol Kimble Finn** and husband Russ celebrated their 40th anniversary in October of 2005. Carol and Russ live in the Washington, D.C., area, are active in their church, and enjoy travel and the theater. They have two sons.

**Carol Dunton Hill** and husband John live in Atlanta. They have one daughter who is working on her Ph.D. in California. Carol retired several years ago after working as an actuarial consultant for many years. She spends her time now painting, drawing and traveling. **Nan Grogan Orrock** also lives in Atlanta, where she has served in the State House of Representatives for nearly 20 years. She heads a national nonpartisan network of women state legislators. Nan has two sons, one of whom is the legislative representative for Georgia Watch.

***Brian Whitacre '98 won five of the six natural bodybuilding shows he competed in last year. An economics professor, he competes professionally against the best natural bodybuilders in the world.***

**"Missy" Bush Shives**, a widow since 1978, has two sons and four grandchildren. She has spent her career in the music field as a high school band and chorus teacher, elementary music teacher and junior high chorus teacher. She finished her career with 18 years as the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra's executive director. She now works part time at a nonprofit organization, volunteers in her church, and plays clarinet in a college/community band. She also has managed to take 10 trips to Europe!

## 1966

Katharine Rogers Lavery
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Our reunion chair and hostess, **Barbara "Bobbi" Bishop Mann**, has been working behind the scenes to organize our 40th reunion in June. Since a planned trip to Egypt conflicted with the UMW meeting at the new Jepson Alumni Executive Center in October, we scheduled an earlier meeting to set things in motion and scout out a restaurant in downtown Fredericksburg for a class gathering June 2. However, Bobbi's mother in Houston was directly in the path of Hurricane Rita and required a rescue mission. Bobbi and her brother, Jim, scrambled to escort their mother out of Houston just before the airport closed. They took her first to Philadelphia, then to Richmond, where she stayed with Bobbi and husband Robert for a few weeks. Consequently, Bobbi missed not only our alumni meeting but also her trip to Egypt.

**Lee Enos Kelley**, **Midge Meredith Poyck** and I attended the reunion planning session and enjoyed working with the staff at the fantastic new Alumni Center, which you all will see when you visit UMW for our reunion. We also enjoyed getting to know some of our sister class members who will share our reunion dates. One was **Sylvia McJilton Woodcock '61**, the elder sister of our own **Eleanor McJilton Thompson**. Eleanor lives in Moseley, Va., not far from Richmond, where she is enjoying retirement after serving 31 years as a Title I elementary school teacher.

Lee wants you to know that she has taken up belly dancing to regain her figure after her "career" of surrogate motherhood. Her story was the highlight of our 30th reunion, remember? Seriously, however, Lee has retired from her career as a family therapist and is devoting much of her time now to UMW alumni service. She played an active role in the creation of the Jepson Alumni Executive Center and continues to work to promote alumni involvement in the University. Both Lee and **Mary Wright Day** are members of the UMW Monroe Society of the President's Council.

Midge retired from her Mary Washington administrative post in 2000, then moved to Lexington, S.C., to be near her son's family. Although she remains active in UMW alumni affairs, she splits her time between Lexington and Tucson, Ariz., where she owns a condo near her daughter's family. Midge enjoys golfing, volunteering and spending time with her four grandchildren. Midge continues to represent our class, along with **Charlotte Major Minor**, on the Board of Directors of the Mary Washington Foundation. In addition, Charlotte is a member of the Brompton Society. Another leader in Mary Washington alumni activities is **Anne Price Fortney**, a member of the Brompton Society, who continues to serve on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Now that state funding for higher education has been drastically reduced, many of our class members have generously joined various chapters of the Mary Washington Foundation. **Barbara Lampl Baucom** and husband Howard, **Carolyn Perry Grow** and husband David, **Gerry Sargent Habas**, and Barbara Bishop Mann are all members of the Centennial Society of the President's Council. The Ball Circle Society includes **Linda Spangle Berkheimer**, **Lenore Gilbert Bowne**, **Mary Parsons Black**, **Anne Meade Claggett**, **Nancy Derrick Denslow**, **Annette Madra Horner**, **Elizabeth Kelling Leasure**, **Emily Roscoe Morse**, **Pam Kearney Patrick**, **Lois Rucker Scott**, **Carol McAfoos Sonnenburg**, **Dee Dee Nottingham Ward**, **Nancy Dean Wolfe** and **Sheila Denny Young**. Three of our classmates – **Carolyn Eldred**, **Charlotte Stultz** and **Linda Johnson Williams**, along with our beloved class sponsor, **Dr. George M. Van Sant** – have joined the Heritage Society. Our class as a whole has proudly maintained a strong support roster with a high degree of participation. Many thanks to all of you!

**Clara Middleton Leigh '63** and I drove to Leesburg, Va., in October to meet **Robbie James East** for our annual lunch visit. **Lois Rucker Scott** often accompanies us, but this year she was away visiting her grandchildren. Robbie reported she has conquered her back problems and enjoys keeping grandson Peyton after preschool even though he is not fond of working in Robbie's flower fields. Robbie continues to keep very busy all year supplying floral arrangements for weddings and other festive occasions.

**Elaine Gerlach McKelly** wrote that she is executive director of the Granville Education Foundation in Oxford, N.C., which raises money for enrichment programs in county schools. It is a great job for her since she interacts with many dedicated teachers, students and community members. Elaine and husband Tim plan to remain in Oxford in a new home they are building across the street from their present home. One daughter and family live in Oxford and the other three families are within a four-hour radius. Elaine and Tim thoroughly enjoy spending time with their children, their wonderful spouses and their seven fantastic grandchildren, who range in age from 4 to 7.

**Norma Woodward Batchelder** is thinking about attending our 40th reunion except that she thinks it must be for old people, and that cannot possibly mean our class! Norma retired seven years ago from teaching at Mary Washington. She recently traveled to Springfield, Ill., to attend the wedding of Italian professor Clavio Ascari's son, a friend of her own son during her teaching tenure. The trip included a visit to her son and daughter-in-law in Chicago followed by a short spell at home in Tryon, N.C., before setting off for three weeks in Turkey. After monitoring the construction of an addition to their home, Norma may be

## School of hard knocks led to simply divine life

Ask **June Keller "Kelly" Vernon '84** to describe one of the strongest motivators in her life and she's likely to reply, "I'm Simply Divine." No, Vernon's not vain. That's the name of her 5-year-old American Saddlebred show horse.

Vernon, a dentist who runs her own practice and a mother of two preschoolers, rides whenever she gets a chance; it's a passion she has possessed since the age of 9. She and her husband, Tom Coover, also raise horses on their 200-acre farm near Colonial Heights,Va.

Despite the demands on her time, Vernon has recently returned to the ring. She won a division championship in Harrisburg, Pa., last fall, and she's training now for the World Championships in August.

How does she juggle it all? Perseverance and pluck – traits she honed at Mary Washington. She arrived on campus at the age of 18 on the heels of a family crisis that left her alone, vulnerable and practically destitute.

"Literally, Mary Washington saved my life," Vernon said in a recent interview. "If the school had closed its doors to me [because of unexpected financial difficulties], I don't know what would have happened to me. Those four years were the turning point of my life."

With the help of the school's financial aid office, Vernon was able to cobble together tuition through scholarships, student loans and work-study jobs. She developed friendships with other students, who opened their homes to her during holidays.

Instead of feeling sorry for herself, Vernon plunged into the challenge, earning a 4.0 her first semester. "I was so proud that under those circumstances, I could do so well." She also affirmed that she wanted a career in medicine. Her part-time job in the biology lab provided some hands-on experience.

As a biology major, Vernon served for a while as president of a pre-med association. She had dinner one night with a local physician who was preparing to speak to the group. He told her, with great sadness, that his medical practice demanded priority over family time. "He told me not to go into medicine unless I was prepared to live a life like that," she recalled. His advice weighed heavily.

That's when she decided to go into dentistry. After graduation, she spent one year working in a dentist's office and then enrolled at Medical College of Virginia's dentistry school.

*Kelly Vernon on "Simply Divine"*

Now, Vernon said, she leads a charmed life. Her dental practice is successful. Her husband serves as business manager for the office and the couple spends as much time as possible with 5-year-old Joshua and 2-year-old Grace.

And Vernon spends a great deal of time with I'm Simply Divine. "He's the horse I've waited my whole life for," she said with unbridled enthusiasm. "It's a thrill every time I ride him."

It's also a thrill, she said, to tell young people how much her years at Mary Washington meant to her. "My diploma hangs in my office and whenever a young girl says she is thinking of applying, I sit her right down and tell her to seriously consider the school and why." Her lesson in self-sufficiency is one Vernon hopes other young people do not have to endure, but she credits the Mary Washington "family" with helping her through.

"Everything I did there formed me and helped me to be a better person."

*– Marjolijn Bijlefeld*

ready to travel to Mary Washington to join us for our reunion.

**Sandra Hutchison Hoybach** recently spent the busiest summer of her life dispelling the myth of lazy summer days. One week in June she had seven adults and five small children staying at her house in Reston, Va. The little ones thought sleeping on the floor was a great adventure, making it fun for the whole family. In mid-August, eldest son Ricky was married in a beautiful outdoor ceremony with the reception at his father's home in nearby Middleburg, Va. Two weeks later, Sandra's daughter, Amy, was married in an elegant historic church in The Plains with the reception in the same place as Ricky's. Wedding preparations would have been smoother had Sandra's mother not developed serious health problems requiring hospitalization and subsequently a permanent move into Sandra's home. Add Sandra's full-time employment at a real estate settlement firm to the excitement, and the picture is complete. Son Ricky lives only a few miles away; daughter Amy has returned to Jackson Hole, Wyo.; son Brandon and family have resumed their life in Croatia; and Sandra is looking forward to things returning to normal. She invites you to visit!

Hank and I remain healthy and very active with work, family, church and hobbies. Our 20th grandchild's arrival is imminent, and I promise not to flaunt pictures at our reunion. See you then!

## 1972

Sherry Rutherford Myers
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**Annette M. "Anya" Monsour** is serving at the American Embassy in Riyadh. Since graduation, she has been a member of the U.S. Foreign Service and has had assignments in Moscow, Mexico City and Bonn, and frequent assignments in Washington, D.C. Concurrent to her Foreign Service career, she completed a second career as an officer in the Navy Reserve. She would love to hear from Mary Washington classmates.

Not much news received this time, but I remain optimistic that you will come in with your news for the Summer '06 issue of *UMW TODAY*. Thanks.

## 1975

Armecia Spivey Medlock
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vagirl805@msn.com

**Anne Harris Morck** wrote that she has been living in Richmond since graduation and currently resides in the Bon Air area. After working as a probation and parole officer, she switched careers and worked as an investment banker. Anne has been a stay-at-home mom and community volunteer for the last 22 years. Anne and her husband of 28 years, Wes, have a son who is a high school senior and a daughter who graduated from William & Mary in 2001.

***Laura Letchworth '98 is a music therapist at NYU Medical Center and is working on her M.A. in public health at Hunter College. Her pediatric patients inspired her to release a CD,* In Little Dreams.**

**Laraine Kelley** works as a plaintiff's attorney in Buffalo, N.Y.; she has lived in western New York for the past 30 years. She has a 15-year-old daughter, a partner of many years, two horses, two dogs and three cats. A garden occupies every square inch of the backyard, so the horses are boarded on a farm in the countryside near her home.

Please keep your information coming! Your classmates would love to hear about you.

## 1981

Lori Foster Turley
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**Robin Bedingfield Brown** and husband Tom have built a home just outside Chapel Hill, N.C. Although their two sons think it's a great idea, they're still debating raising horses on their 20-plus acres. Robin retired from the Navy in 2002 after 20 years of service. She stays busy volunteering at school and church. Tom is also retired from military service and when he isn't traveling, he works as a government contractor from his home office.

**Resa Cirrincione Schaffer**'s move from New Hampshire to California was a good one: Although she misses the changing seasons and the first snowfall, she does not miss the shoveling. She

is still employed by a legal publishing company in New York City, but works from home. Telecommuting has opened up a lot of doors for her. She is enjoying her tiny Southern California landscaped lawn. Their guest room has been occupied by a dear friend whose family lost their home and everything they owned in Hurricane Katrina.

By the time you read this, I will have retired from the Navy after 24 years. I look forward to spending a lot more time with my family. I hope you all have marked our 25th reunion on your calendars. It's the first weekend in June. I look forward to seeing you there!

## 1988

Lisa Boyd Nesbit
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Hi everyone! Here's hoping this finds you well and enjoying life. I am happy to say I have a new appreciation for life and all the little everyday things I used to take for granted. I had major surgery and was bedridden for more than six weeks, and then I had to endure months of physical therapy. I am so grateful to finally be back on my feet and back into my family's routine. I know it may be hard to imagine, but I actually missed doing the preschool and elementary school carpool, shopping for groceries, and all the other little errands we try to cram into our days. Due to my recovery, I missed a deadline for the *UMW TODAY*. For that, I apologize. However, please keep the information coming. A quick e-mail or note is all that's necessary; more than likely, there's an old friend out there who would love to hear about you.

**Carol J. Arnold** wrote that she taught nursing students at Germanna Community College for seven years after graduation. She received a degree in nursing from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. At present, she is semi-retired as a nurse and loves it. She is continuing to fight the non-Hodgkin's lymphoma that has plagued her for 20 years. She encouraged all of us to appreciate life and live it to the fullest.

**Kirsti Lattu** sent news that she has pledged the next 60-plus years to **Alan Potts '86**, as they were married on January 1, 2005. Alan teaches high school science and Kirsti does international humanitarian relief work. They love their new (old) home in the Hudson Valley and their new life together.

**Kathryn Berube Ortega** has been living in Tampa, Fla., for five years; before that, she and her husband lived in Hawaii for seven years. While in Hawaii, she received her master's degree in urban and regional planning. She attended a brunch in Orlando hosted by other alumni at which President Anderson gave a talk on the future of the University. She enjoyed hearing all the accolades Mary Washington is receiving.

**Karen Spilman Marmaras** sent in what she called the "short story" of her last 17 years. She earned a master's degree in the history and sociology of science at the University of Pennsylvania. She has worked as a writer, editor, researcher and graphic designer. She is currently a stay-at-home mom with her three children. She and husband Peter spend a lot of time working on their circa 1750s Pennsylvania German stone farmhouse. They both are active in leadership at their church and enjoy hiking, gardening and digging around in antique shops looking for treasures.

**Kristin Livingston Coron** has been married to **Jeff Coron '89** for 14 years. They have two children: Emily Grace, 9, and Caroline Adelle, 3. They enjoy living in Fredericksburg and enjoy strolling the campus from time to time, noting the changes that have occurred since they were students. Kristin said that marrying into the Coron family has, of course, kept **Greg Coron '90** and his wife **Andrea Cooper Coron '90** and their two children Riley, 7, and Julia, 3, close not only as family, but as friends. Kristin says they all feel fortunate watching their families grow up side by side.

Many of you have requested information about our classmate, Steve Brown, who was listed in the "In Memoriam" section of the summer '05 issue of *UMW TODAY*. Steve passed away in January 2005 at Western Maryland Hospital where he had resided since 1988. By now, you will have seen the Winter '06 issue with an article about Steve's odyssey. If you desire additional information, please e-mail me and I will put you in touch with **Arlene Fierstien Klapproth**.

Thanks to all of you who sent in news. For those of you who did not, I challenge you to take a minute to e-mail an update about yourself or another classmate.

## 1991

Dia J. Hablutzel
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**Christy Copper**, our Reunion Gift Committee Chair, sends the following message: Our 15-year reunion will take place June 2-4; plan now to attend. The Reunion Gift Committee for the Class of 1991 has begun its work and needs your help. Our class goal is $16,000. We can do it! When you are contacted by a committee member or a phone-a-thon caller, please consider making a donation. Even if it's just a few dollars, your gift will help us to achieve our goal and ensure that Mary Washington remains the great place that we all so fondly recall. If you have any questions or want to contact Christy, feel free to e-mail her at christinecopper@yahoo.com. Thank you in advance for your support. See you in June!

## 1993

Cheryl Roberts
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*EDITOR'S NOTE: Cheryl Roberts has diligently upheld her Class Agent duties and has submitted news for Class Notes. However, due to a technical problem, her submissions have not been received. Please send news items to her for inclusion in an upcoming issue.*

## 1998

Erika Giaimo Chapin
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**Kyle Courtney** finally responded to my series of e-mails requesting information, and he had a lot to say. First, he's working at Harvard Law School and lecturing to graduate students on intellectual property and copyright law at Emerson College. He's also working on his master's degree in library and information science at Simmons College in Boston. His wife, **Sheila Elledge Courtney**, left Chubb Insurance for a managerial position for all of New England with AIG Private Client Group. As a master's degree student in Emerson's organizational and corporate communication program, she heard her husband lecture in one of her courses.

The Courtneys bought an 1870s farm house in Hanover, Mass., last summer; however, Kyle said he needs to get a serious riding mower to cover all of the acreage they own!

**Rick Oppedisano** wrote that he has been living in Charlotte, N.C., since 2000. A number of classmates attended his wedding in the fall. **Brian Daly '97** served as best man and guests included **Kim Ranney '97**, **Nick Paradis**, **Allan Michaels**, **Craig Fear** and **Amy Rinciari**. **Aftab "Joe" Datta** wrote that he received his M.S. in chemistry in 2002 and his MBA in 2005. He married in August and spent his honeymoon in England, Portugal and Norway. Joe and Yulia live in Washington, D.C., and Joe works in Alexandria.

In other wedding news, **Brian Whitacre** married **Jill Stecher '00** in September. Their wedding was a reunion of two Mary Washington classes with a guest list that included **Ben Phelps**, **Kevin Byrne**, **Justin Mink**, **Erik Bursch**, **Craig Gillan**, **Mike Prensky** and **Jason Fusaro**. Also, **John Langan '00**, **Burt Burroughs '00**, **Wes McIntyre '00**, **Dave Love '00**, **Brendan Madigan '00**, **Kelly Coffey '00**, **Brian Turner '00**, **Leah** and **Jeremy Powers '00**, and **Andrea Shaw '00**. Brian earned his Ph.D. in applied economics from Virginia Tech and is serving as a visiting professor there. He has several interviews lined up for tenure-track positions at universities around the country. In addition, he won five of the six natural bodybuilding shows he competed in this year. Brian noted that all that time in Goolrick finally paid some dividends. He'll compete professionally next year against the best natural bodybuilders in the world.

***Rob Eidson '01, an employee relations manager for a government contractor, received the 2005 Greater Washington Area Human Resources Leadership Award for academic and professional accomplishment.***

**Leslie Mills Kimball** met up with friends **Laura Babb Currier** and **Marissa Buono Guillen** at **Jenna Cassidy**'s engagement party. Jenna, who lives in Newport Beach, Calif., met her fiancé through her job at ESPN. Her wedding is scheduled for July.

**Ginger Vaughn** married Mark Victoria in November, and they moved into a new home outside Philadelphia. **Kelly Sutton Russell** served as her matron of honor and **Amy Fromm** was a bridesmaid. Ginger and Mark are expecting their first child. In other baby news, **Alyson Andrews Ramsey** and husband Peter are expecting their first child this spring.

**Adrien Snedeker** is planning to move to Kodiak, Alaska, to be with her boyfriend, Adam. She told me

she's really looking forward to the 24 hours of darkness next winter. **Scott Mulligan** became a true bionic man with his prosthetic legs as a result of a tragic car accident he was in several years ago. Scott is progressing well and is now working at Life-Link International, a company that makes backcountry ski equipment and avalanche safety gear. He and wife Laura welcomed daughter Sarah early last year. **Lee Mebel** moved to Denver, and she extends an open invitation to all alumni to attend their permanent housewarming party. **Lauren Dwyer Lowther** and her husband, Brandon, also relocated to Denver. They are putting the finishing touches on their home, and Lauren is telecommuting to her graphic design position in northern Virginia.

**Laura Letchworth** is a music therapist at NYU Medical Center and is working on her master's degree in public health at Hunter College. She released a CD titled *In Little Dreams*, inspired by her pediatric patients. **Lina Marunas** and **Nicole LeVangie** traveled from Boston to attend her CD release party in New York City in October. Laura also reports that **Erin Rodman** has moved back East to D.C. to teach film and that **Larissa Lipani Peluso** lives in Ashburn, Va., with her husband and son, Anthony. **Sean Tuffy** continues to send us postcards from his trips around the world – he was recently in China, Montenegro and South Africa. He's based in Dublin, with State Street, a financial services company. He said that former fellow Sons of Liberty **Mike Cirami**, **Eric Kloss** and **Ed Kriete** are doing well. Mike recently received his CFA and lives in Boston. Eric is also in Boston, and Ed works for Wells Fargo in San Francisco.

**Caitlin Jenkins** moved from D.C. to Buffalo, N.Y., to work on her master's degree in art conservation. **Mike "Pasta" Paolino** relocated to Rhode Island with his wife, Diane, to work in financial planning. He is thrilled to announce that he passed his Series 7 exam in November, so we all should feel comfortable trusting him with our investments.

As for us, **Deacon** continues to work on his M.Ed. in counseling and hopes to finish his program in May. Since January, the University of New Hampshire has entrusted me to work with freshmen and sophomores in helping them make academic plans and career goals.

Thanks to those of you who sent your updates. It's always great to hear from you!

## 2001

Caroline L. Jarvis
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Well, it's been a busy year for the Class of 2001.

**Teresa Joerger Mannix** hopes to complete her thesis this summer and receive her master's degree from George Mason University. She lives in Bristow, Va., and works in the Office of University Relations at Mary Washington.

**Adele Neiburg** is in her second year of a two-year federal clerkship in Williamsport, Pa., and will be an employment litigation associate with the law firm of Williams Mullen in Richmond next fall. **Matt Cliszis** is working for The Chubb Group of Insurance Companies and just bought a co-op in the Forest Hills, Queens area of New York. He and **Pam Kirby** are still dating. Pam changed jobs and is now a coordinating producer at Spike TV.

**Dave Foster** is living in Virginia Beach. He works for Serco, a defense contractor that helps the Army with cost analysis for its current LOGCAP contract. He taught English and lived in Jundiai, Brazil, from February to August of 2004, and he lived in Sao Paulo with **Chad Gibbons**.

**Pete Stoughton** finished his M.Ed. and is a special education teacher. He is taking graduate classes part time at U.Va. in hopes of getting into a Ph.D. program. He and his wife of two years live in Charlottesville, Va. **Sara Harney** lives in Alexandria, Va., and works as a high school counselor. **Kira Maas** lives in Washington, D.C., and is the press secretary in Rep. Silvestre Reyes' office. **Sharon Wilcox** lives in Austin, Texas, where she is finishing her master's degree in geography at the University of Texas.

**Rob Eidson** is an employee relations manager for a government contractor in Tysons Corner, Va., and he will finish his master's degree in human resource management at Marymount University this spring. Recently, he was awarded the 2005 Greater Washington Area Human Resources Leadership Award for academic and professional accomplishment.

**Gina Han** is in her fifth year of living in Fredericksburg. Last summer, she earned her M.Ed. from UMW's College of Graduate and Professional Studies and is in her second year of teaching biology and environmental science at Colonial Forge High School in Stafford County.

**Karen Graver** of Arlington, Va., received her master's degree in applied physics from George Mason University last summer while completing her thesis at the National Institutes of Health in a biophysics lab. Her research at the National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute involves using optical techniques to help understand the dynamics of proteins. She is continuing at GMU and NIH for her Ph.D. in a physics and chemistry program.

**James Ahlmann** is serving as a special agent with a federal law enforcement agency at an overseas location. His first daughter just turned 2, and his second daughter was born in September 2005.

***Karen Graver '01 earned a master's degree in applied physics from George Mason University and is working toward her doctorate. She conducts research at the National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute involving optical techniques that may help understand the dynamics of proteins.***

**Lauren Oviatt Brennan** completed her master's degree in higher education administration and continues to work with honors students at the Eller College of Management. She also works as a wedding photographer's assistant in Tucson, Ariz.

**Natalie Dykstra** married Stan Rutkowski, a native of Pennsylvania, in August 2003. They bought their first home in Bristow, Va., in January 2005. Stan teaches fourth grade in Manassas. Natalie just completed one year of working for the federal government as a secretary. She justifies the daily three-hour commute because she loves her job so much.

**Karyn Havas** is a captain in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. She serves as veterinarian at Grand Forks and Minot Air Force bases in North Dakota. **Stephanie Scheibe Lee** finished her master's degree in computer science at Virginia Commonwealth University in June 2005. In September, she gave birth to her second child, Emily Anne Lee.

**Jill McDonald Good** is living in Groomsport, Northern Ireland, with her husband, Steven. She graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in May 2005 with a master's degree in religious education. She is working as a substitute teacher.

**Ethan Bedell** is a flight attendant for jetBlue. He lives in New York City, but commutes to Virginia many weekends to see friends and family. He saw **Matt Facenda** in Philly earlier this summer and sends his congratulations – so do we – to **Cody Camblin** for his wedding to **Jennifer Graboyes '03.** Ethan also has kept in touch with **Kelley Argie**, who resides in her native New Hampshire. **Jessica Bergner** is teaching fifth grade in Fairfax County, Va. She recently purchased her own home and plans to travel to Argentina and Antarctica next winter.

**Patty Donachy** was married Oct. 16 to Anthony Barron, who grew up in Phoenix. They are living in Mesa, Ariz., where Patty teaches high school biology. **Kevin Lampinen** is in the Marine Corps, stationed in South Carolina. **Trais Pearson**, **Zac Sargent** and **Brendan Eygabroat** live together in Jamaica Plain, Mass. Brendan is now in his second year as head baseball coach for the University of Massachusetts-Boston. Zac continues to serve as a project manager for Muckle and Associates, a preservation contractor. Trais works for the Harvard University Law Library in Cambridge. All three miss Charles Street.

**Kate McGinn** is living and working in Alexandria, Va. She is a third grade teacher and recently performed in the Washington Savoyards' production of *The Mikado*. **Jessica Moore** is a lobbyist for the Walt Disney Co. Jessica, her husband and her totally adorable (I've seen her) nearly-2-year-old just moved to their new house in Vienna, Va. **Leigh Hightower** lives in Alexandria, Va., and works for a congressman, but she would rather win

**No News Is Not Good News**

If your class is not listed, it means no news was received from your Class Agent. To find out who your class agent is and to submit news, please go to: www.umwedu/umwtoday Click on the current issue and go to Class Notes. Or, call Ruth Feltner in the Office of University Publications at 540/654-1056.

the lottery and move to her own island where she can spend her days drinking pink beverages. Wouldn't we all?

As for me, I still am working for the Development and Corporate Affairs Department in the Navy League of the United States in Arlington, Va. Having caught the travel bug, I'm hoping to go to Australia in the coming year. I'm also planning another drive across country; hopefully this time we won't experience a blizzard, a barrage of tumbleweeds, and 95-degree weather in the same day. For now, I'll have to settle on Vegas and New England!

A big thanks to everyone who responded to e-mails and requests for information. Congratulations on all the marriages, birth announcements, job offers, home purchases, etc. As always, we reserve the right to edit anyone's notes to make the rest of us feel better!

Remember that the best way to send information is via mwcgrad01@hotmail.com

## IN MEMORIAM

Kathryn C. Gallagher Spirito '31
Frances Lakeman '32
Erma Colley McKenzie '32
Martha Lydia Moore Edwards '33
Josephine Matz Wells '33
Florence Johnson Dodge '34
Margaret Anderson Barrett '35
Adele Crowgey Giles '37
Helen Fulmer Hollomon '39
Nell Jackson Atkinson '41
Imogene Robinson '41
Lucy Heuser New '42
Earlyne Lewis Reece '43
Daphne Crump Rudilosso '43
Mary McCrane Doherty '44
Betty Cochran Melius '44
Carolyn Watts Quigley '44
Arbutus Woodward Bradshaw '46
Ravis McBride Carter '47
C. Warren Forbush '47
Lavenia Godwin Munford '47
Paula T. O'Gorman Rimnac '47
Katherine Kennedy Clark '48
Jeanne Shadwell Mangano '48
Lillian Lauer Marshall '48
Lila Riggs Graf '49
Joan Rekemeyer Kibbe '49
Betty Ann Phillips '49
Mary Craig Thomas '49
Beatrice Marie Rice Adreon '51
Ann Lawson Hanson '51
Joan Weissblatt Rich '51
Betty Lou Fox Collier '52
Jessie Mackay Foster '53
Grace Cumming Behal '54
Carolyn Martin Owen '56
Jean Ahern Weiss '56
Sarah Louise Divine '59
Jane Bryant Redmon '61
Janice Brown Wigglesworth '64
Viola Wilkinson Hemingway '64
Linda Keyes Shook '65
Patricia Barton Bouwmans '76
Mary Alice Packard '79
Susan Eiche Green '82
Elizabeth P. Amburgey '92

## CONDOLENCES

Frances Watts Barker '44, who lost her sister
Provi Keelan Piovanetti '45, who lost her husband
Frances Stebbins Shelton '45, who lost her husband
Ora Elena Robinson Bonham '46, who lost her husband
Virginia Edmunds-Reichert '46, who lost her husband
Margaret Thomas Rouse '46, who lost her husband
Barbara Browning '47, who lost her husband
Marian Messersmith Snider '48, who lost her husband
Anne White Dobbins '49, who lost her husband
Rowena Simpson Renn '50, who lost her husband
Virginia Orkney Philbrick '52, who lost her husband
Patsy Hubbard Johnson '56, who lost her husband
Marcia Kyes Price '59, who lost her husband
Katherine R. "Jill" Hadden '74, who lost her sister
Kemetia M. K. Foley '87, who lost her mother

## OBITUARIES

### Sonja D. Hayder

*Fifth position – demi-plié, rond de jamb, rond de jamb, assemblé, Pas de bourrée. Ready? One and two and three and four . . . "*

In a lilting and inimitable cadence, Professor Emerita **Sonja Dragomanovic Haydar** struck a constantly shifting balance of respect, adoration, inspiration and fear in her dancers. Whether novices taking ballet for the first time or seasoned ballerinas dancing the classical roles of their dreams, no one came into Mrs. Haydar's presence without leaving transformed.

Mrs. Haydar, who died Dec. 8, 2005, after a prolonged illness, was instrumental in shaping the dance program at Mary Washington. A renowned prima ballerina and a specialist in classical ballet, she taught at UMW for 21 years before her retirement in 1989.

For many students, a class with Miss Dragomanovic (or Mrs. Haydar as students later knew her) was all too fleeting. These were moments spent in the company of a true artist – an encounter with someone who saw the world through eyes different than ours, yet who wanted nothing more than for us to see the world as she did. Mrs. Haydar was the doyenne of dance, and we found ourselves supplicants to her artistry.

Once, during my undergraduate days at Mary Washington, I turned an aisle at the supermarket and clumsily bumped into Mrs. Haydar as she was shopping for groceries. I immediately was struck by the incongruity of the moment. I could not quite fathom that a woman so regal, so exquisite, so elegant would have to do something so mundane as push a cart around the aisles of a grocery store. Mrs. Haydar, a native of Croatia, thought nothing of running into me and we talked for several minutes as I fumbled to be comfortable in that startling and paradoxical moment. Our conversation ended like many we would share over the next few years. "Daahhhhling . . . why don't you major in dance?"

Mrs. Haydar wanted me not because of the height of my échappés nor the grace of my jetés, but rather because I was a man who could support and lift her beautiful dancers. And, quite frankly, because I also could lift heavy reel-to-reel tape recorders, scenery and barres when the Dance Company embarked on its annual tour. While I knew my true value to Mrs. Haydar, her invitations allowed me to think of myself in a way I had not before, inspiring me to work harder and imagine myself in a world different from my own.

When I returned to Mary Washington to teach, Mrs. Haydar had retired. We talked many times over the years, and I fell in love again with the sheer verve she brought to her daily life. Some of these conversations happened during surprise visits to my office or at dance concerts, but they occurred most often when she strolled with her dog in front of my house. I will always remember the control and grace that was synonymous with her being – even while walking her dog along the streets of Fredericksburg.

I am convinced that when we teach, we teach for a lifetime of learning. What we share with our students may not be clear to them for many, many years. When Sonja Dragomanovic Haydar died at the age of 81, she left within thousands of students and acquaintances a lovely lilt that beckons us to discover for ourselves the magnificence of our world. What she gave through dance classes and rehearsals – and in the aisles of Giant and on the sidewalks of Fredericksburg – was the richest gift a professor can give to her students.

Contributions in Mrs. Haydar's memory may be made to the University of Mary Washington Foundation-Sonja D. Haydar Scholarship in Dance, Jepson Alumni Executive Center, 1119 Hanover Ave., Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

*– Gregg Stull '82*
*Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance*

## Grover P. Burns Sr.

**Grover Preston Burns Sr.**, a retired physics professor and former chairman of the Mary Washington Department of Physics, died in October 2005. He was at the University from 1948 to 1969.

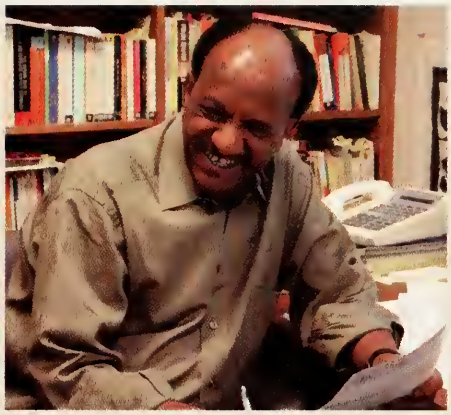
Originally from West Virginia, Dr. Burns was genuinely precocious, graduating from high school at the age of 15, and from college at 19. Subsequently, he served as a mathematics and physics teacher at his old high school. Later, he completed graduate work in physics and took a position as head of the statistical analysis department at FMC Corp. in Fredericksburg and a teaching position at Mary Washington College, then the Women's Division of the University of Virginia. He balanced a full-time teaching load with his full-time job. In the late 1960s, he gave up the FMC position and became a research mathematician at the Naval Surface Weapons Center at Dahlgren.

As a research scientist, Dr. Burns owned a number of patents for his inventions, including a thermometer and electrical conductivity tester. As a teacher and an individual, he was at once rigorous, enthusiastic, soft-spoken and kind.

In his spare time, he enjoyed golf. He was intensely proud of his daughter, **Julia Corinne Burns Jefferson '67**, physics major at Mary Washington; and his son, Grover Preston Burns Jr., a Fredericksburg-area dentist.

Among the pallbearers at Dr. Burns' funeral were Herb Cover, professor emeritus of chemistry; and Bulent Atalay, professor of physics. The deceased physicist likely would have approved of the fact that his two former colleagues were correctly assigned the positions at the center-of-gravity of the casket.

## Sudden death of beloved professor leaves void in English department



Karen Pearlman

Professor of English **Taddesse Adera** died suddenly at his home on January 17, 2006. A specialist in post-colonial literature, Professor Adera inspired hundreds of students to expand their understanding of literary study on a global scale.

In the 16 years he spent at the University, Dr. Adera taught a wide variety of courses ranging from African Literature, Women of Color, and the Literature of Resistance to Nobel Laureates of the Non-West and South African Literature. His commitment to excellence in teaching, service and scholarship led to his winning the 1997 Commonwealth's Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia.

Dr. Adera's scholarly work focused on a wide variety of post-colonial literatures. He edited *Silence Is Not Golden: A Critical Anthology of Ethiopian Literature* and translated V.I. Lenin's *The State and Revolution* into Amharic. His edited anthology, *The Road Less Traveled: Reflections on the Literatures of the Horn of Africa*, is forthcoming in June from Africa World Press. He has published both poetry and short fiction in his native Amharic.

*"For [Taddesse], education was more than just a job; it was an opportunity for him to introduce his students to a world and view that might have been quite foreign to them. . . . His contributions as an educator will continue to influence generations of future students."*

*– Physics Professor George King III, in his eulogy to his dear friend of 16 years*

Also, Dr. Adera served as executive committee member and chair of the Division on African Literatures of the Modern Language Association, an editor for several scholarly journals, and as a member of the National Screening Committee for the Fulbright Program. He was awarded several grants to pursue his research, including one from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Dr. Adera's biography exemplified his commitment to the themes he shared with his students. A native of Ethiopia, Dr. Adera championed civil rights and social justice, and led a resistance movement against the communist regime then in power, an action for which he was imprisoned in Ethiopia for three years. Upon his release, he emigrated to the United States and earned his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Washington.

During his funeral, Dr. Adera was fondly remembered by family and friends, who uniformly recalled his dignity and pride, his warm and generous spirit, his profound integrity, his delight in his children, and the power of his smile. The University community shares in the grief of his family and friends, and will not soon recover from the loss of such a teacher, friend and scholar.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, and several brothers and sisters. Contributions in Dr. Adera's memory may be sent to the University of Mary Washington Foundation-Adera Memorial Fund, Jepson Alumni Executive Center, 1119 Hanover Ave., Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

*– Teresa A. Kennedy*
*Chair, Department of English, Linguistics and Speech*

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Dr. Adera, written by a former student who graduated in 1997. Dr. Adera's English department colleague, Constance Smith, with whom Dr. Adera had shared the letter, read it at the funeral. The letter-writer said he was "fortunate enough" to have had Dr. Adera as his professor in a class on short fiction. After college, the student served as an officer in the Marine Corps for seven years. When he wrote the letter, dated September 22, 2004, he was pursuing a graduate degree in foreign policy at George Washington University.

*I'm writing you to say that you and that [short fiction] class have had a profound influence on me over the years. I realize that it was an introductory course, but there was something in your teaching and the works we read that sparked a flash in my head.*

*You had us read* The Garden of the Forking Paths *by Borges and I remember staying up and reading through that story and the glow I felt when I understood it. That's a feeling I haven't forgotten and one that has led me to embrace literature over the years.*

*I do not purport to be a scholar or expert in any field, but because of the gate that you opened, I have a far deeper appreciation of the human condition and the attendant complexities and wonders. As time goes by and I see a bit of life with my own eyes, I like being able to turn to literature and see its reflection so beautifully described by a great writer.*

*A couple of years into my tour in the Marines I was in a bookstore and on a whim bought a recent re-release of* Borges' Dicciones. *Soon after, the floodgates opened and I started grabbing at the bookshelves and reaching for whatever great author I could find. I've really developed an affection for Camus, Steinbeck and, of course, Shakespeare. I soon started setting aside military manuals and reaching for novels and am a better man for the effort. That I was willing and able to make the effort is because of what you taught me.*

*Thank you.*

# Alumna's saintly spirit suffuses Campus Walk

*Gregory Stanton delivered these remarks at a December ceremony on Campus Walk. The occasion marked the 25th anniversary of Jean Donovan's death and honored her memory with a brass plaque that was installed near the James Farmer memorial.*

Today, we dedicate a memorial to **Jean Donovan '75**, a saint who walked thousands of times through this plaza. When she was a student at Mary Washington, we might not have recognized her sainthood. She drove a Harley and poured Scotch on her breakfast cereal. She wore a T-shirt and a leather jacket. She laughed a lot.

At the same time, she was a devout Catholic. Her brother Michael's victory over Hodgkins disease had awakened her to the awesome powers of the Holy Spirit – powers that had helped him overcome even cancer. Jean spent her junior year in Cork, Ireland, where she met a priest named Michael Crowley, who had just returned from 10-year stint as a missionary in Peru. Working with a Catholic student group, she began to feed the hungry and visit the sick. For the first time, she encountered the poor.

Upon her graduation from Mary Washington, Jean went on to earn an MBA and joined Arthur Andersen international accounting firm in Cleveland. At the company Christmas party in 1977, Jean won an all-expense paid trip to Spain for herself and her fiancé. The next day, she asked for time off, cashed in the tickets, and flew directly to Ireland. Father Crowley opened his door and there stood Jean, unannounced. "Don't laugh too loud," she said. "I've come to talk to you because I think I have to change my life."

When Jean returned to Cleveland, she drove her Harley to church and told the youth minister she wanted to volunteer to work with inner-city kids. At the end of 1977, she quit her job at Arthur Andersen and headed to the Maryknoll Lay Missioners, where she was trained to spend three years in El Salvador.

At that time, El Salvador was racked by civil war. Right-wing death squads were even assassinating Catholic priests and catechists. Jean's friends and family feared for her safety and tried to talk her out of going.

Neva S. Trenis

But Jean wrote, "I have been thinking about this vocation for many years. I think that for a number of years, Christ has been sending people into my life and through their example and actions, I have heard a calling to missionary work."

In La Libertad, El Salvador, she delivered food to the hungry and provided family education. She had her Harley shipped to La Libertad. The Salvadorans called her Saint Jean the Playful. She became a follower of Archbishop Oscar Romero. When he came to La Libertad, Jean baked him her famous chocolate chip cookies.

In 1980, the violence in El Salvador increased, and Archbishop Romero opened the mammoth seminary in downtown San Salvador to displaced Salvadorans. On March 24, 1980, while Archbishop Romero was celebrating Mass, a death squad assassin shot and killed him as he held the cup of Holy Communion. Jean was among the 100,000 people who attended his funeral. Government troops opened fire on the funeral-goers and 44 people died in the stampede. On July 6, 1980, Jean was escorted home from a movie by two friends. Just outside Jean's door, the friends were shot and killed.

In September of that year, Jean took a six-week vacation. She traveled to London to see her fiancé, to Ireland to see Father Crowley, and to the U.S. Her friends and family begged her not to return to El Salvador. Jean prayed deeply about it, concluding,

"I belong there. Those people need me. … The danger is extreme. I am not up for suicide. Several times I have decided to leave El Salvador. I almost could, except for the children, the poor, bruised victims of this insanity. Who will care for them? Whose heart could be so staunch as to favor the reasonable thing in a sea of their tears and loneliness? Not mine … not mine."

In a remark typical of Jean, she also told one of her best friends before she returned to El Salvador: "Look, it's a can't-lose situation for me! Either I will get three years of great experiences out of it, or I will die. And then you'll have to pray to Saint Jean the Playful for the rest of your life."

On the evening of Dec. 2, 1980, Jean and Sister Dorothy Kazel picked up Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford at the San Salvador airport and headed into town. At a roadblock, they were kidnapped by five Salvadoran National Guardsmen who raped them, shot them, and buried their bodies in a shallow grave.

The story didn't end there, though. The international outcry over their murders led to FBI-assisted investigations and the first convictions of death squad killers by a Salvadoran court. A civil trial in the U.S. brought by Jean's family 19 years later finally demonstrated our government's complicity in the violations of human rights by the Salvadoran junta.

Jean Donovan was a hell-raiser. But the guardsmen who murdered her and buried her body 25 years ago could not bury her spirit. She is risen and is with us today. I can feel her presence, like her laughter on the wind. She has a twinkle in her blue Irish eyes, and a smile that could melt a machine gun. With her Lord Jesus, she invites us, "Whoever would save her life will lose it, and whoever loses her life for my sake will save it. … Sell all you have and give to the poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me."

*Michael Donovan, left, spoke about his sister, Jean, at the dedication service. Gregory Stanton, right, is UMW's James Farmer Visiting Professor of Human Rights.*

# University of Mary Washington Bookstore

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Lisa Romerowicz, The Free Lance-Star

## THE HAND-OFF

*In his introductory remarks to the campus community upon being named Mary Washington's seventh president, William J. Frawley praised President William M. Anderson Jr. and his legacy. At the conclusion, Frawley strode across the Great Hall and shook hands with his predecessor.*


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